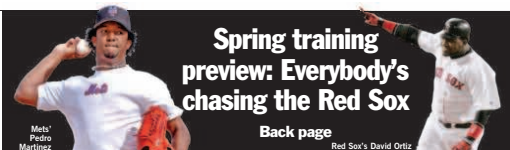


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DOD: Fewer gays being discharged since 9/11

Every branch reporting decline in 'homosexual separations'

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Valentine's stress

High expectations, procrastination
create obstacles as some
men search for the
perfect gift

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

World

Palestinian deportees to return: Israel has agreed to repatriate dozens of Palestinians it expelled from the West Bank during the Palestinian uprising, an adviser to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Saturday, disclosing the latest measure building on this week's cease-fire.

Israel deported about 55 Palestinians it accused of terror activities to the Gaza Strip and Europe after the uprising started in September 2000. The majority were exiled after a monthlong siege of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem in 2002.

War on terrorism

Prisoner abuse trial: A CIA contractor charged with beating an Afghan detainee who later died was protecting the nation against terrorists and should not be prosecuted because he was following directives from the president and his administration, his lawyers argued in filings released this week.

Lawyers for David A. Passaro, a former Army Special Forces soldier from North Carolina who was hired as CIA contractor, also contend that the alleged beating of Abdul Wali occurred outside the jurisdiction of U.S. courts.

States

Same-sex marriage support: Mass. Attorney General Thomas Reilly, who played a key role in state efforts to fight the legalization of gay marriage a year ago, now says he favors same-sex marriage and will oppose any efforts to ban it.

Reilly, an unannounced Democratic candidate for governor, told *The Boston Globe* he was "moved" by the same-sex marriages that took place after gay marriage was legalized on May 17.

Fla. right-to-life battle: A judge in a contentious right-to-life battle has refused to reconsider his ruling allowing a man to remove the feeding tube keeping his brain-damaged wife alive.

Circuit Court Judge George Greer rejected arguments by Terri Schiavo's parents that their daughter's due process rights were violated because she never had her own attorney.

The decision could pave the way for the tube to be removed in the coming weeks.

Church sex abuse scandal: Four priests accused of sexually abusing children have been defrocked by the Vatican, the Boston



VAL GEMPIS/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

Tribute to troops: Louis Hernandez, left, and his sister, Sierra Hernandez, participate in a candlelight vigil Friday at Yokota Air Base, Japan's Community Center for deployed troops. About 200 people paid tribute to U.S. forces deployed in various locations worldwide. The ceremony included songs and prayers for the troops.

Archdiocese said.

Robert D. Fay, Kelvin Iguabita, Bernard Lane and Robert Ward are "no longer in the clerical state," meaning they can no longer function as priests and will no longer receive any financial support from the Boston Archdiocese, the archdiocese announced Friday.

McDonald's settlement: McDonald's Corp. will pay \$8.5 million to settle a lawsuit accusing the fast-food giant of failing to inform consumers of delays in a plan to reduce fat in the cooking oil used for its popular french fries and other foods.

BartTransFats.com, a nonprofit advocacy group, sued McDonald's in California in 2003, alleging the company did not effectively disclose to the public that it had not switched to a healthier cooking oil.

Mobster murder plea: Three members of the Bonanno crime family, including the former acting boss, pleaded guilty to murdering another mobster in New York on Friday, in the wake of family head Joseph Massino's deal with the government.

Former acting boss Anthony "Tony Green" Ursò, 68, pleaded guilty to racketeering murder, gambling, loan-sharking and extortion. Joseph Cammarano, 69, and Louis Restivo, 70, pleaded to racketeering murder.

CIA leak probe: Attorney General Alberto Gonzales has stepped aside from the Justice Department investigation into the leak of an undercover CIA officer's identity.

Gonzales had been involved in the case as White House legal counsel, testifying before a federal grand jury and giving advice about it to White House personnel.

He recused himself from the matter shortly after he was sworn in as attorney general last week, Justice Department spokeswoman Tasia Scolinos said Friday.

Military

Carrier hearing: Testimony by the Navy's top admiral at a Senate committee hearing may aid an effort to save the Florida-based aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy from the scrap heap, U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson said Friday.

Adm. Vernon Clark, the Navy's chief of staff, Thursday confirmed the Kennedy, berthed at Mayport Naval Station near Jacksonville, is the previously unidentified carrier earmarked for retirement, said Nelson, D-Fla.

Stories from The Associated Press

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'Don't ask, don't tell' discharges dropping

BY EVELYN NIEVES
AND ANN SCOTT TYSON
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The number of gay and lesbian soldiers discharged under the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy has dropped by almost half since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Significant declines have occurred in every branch of the armed forces, according to the statistics released Friday by the Defense Department. The Marine Corps, Air Force and Navy discharged fewer gay and lesbian soldiers in 2004 than in any year since the Pentagon began tallying the number of its "homosexual separations" in 1997.

The Army's discharges represented the lowest number of discharges in five years.

Overall, the total number of soldiers discharged under the law banning gays and lesbians in the military has dropped from a high of 1,227 in 2001 to 653 in 2004.

A Defense spokeswoman declined comment on the statistics, referring questions to the individual services. Spokespersons for the services said they were hard pressed to single out a specific reason for the decline.

Services find no clear reason, but some point to a need for personnel

"Obviously, it's a very controversial issue," said Lt. Col. Bryan Hilferty, a spokesman for the personnel office in the Army, which, in relation to the total size of each of the services, had the highest proportion of gays departing last year. "I just got the figures and I don't know why" they fell.

Gay rights organizations said the decline was easy to explain: Pressed for personnel since the war on terror began, the military needs soldiers and so isn't discharging homosexuals as it once did.

It may be more subtle than that, however, said Charles Moskos, professor emeritus of military sociology at Northwestern University and an architect of the "don't ask, don't tell" concept.

He said the vast majority of dismissals for violations of the "don't ask, don't tell" come when soldiers violate their sexual orientation to their superiors. Fewer than 20 per-

cent of the discharges resulted from soldiers being caught with a member of the same sex in a compromising position or from investigations of their conduct.

A central reason for the decline may be that gays are not telling of their sexual orientation as frequently since 2001 — or that military authorities are not believing them, Moskos said.

Given the current stress on military services, he said, individuals who say they are gay may not be immediately granted an honorable discharge.

"It may be that if someone tells ... they don't let them go now," Moskos said. Declaring one's homosexuality is still "the easiest way to get out with an honorable discharge," he said, adding that "being a conscientious objector is a big hassle."

Groups that advocate for an abolishment of "don't ask, don't tell" said the new figures point out the hypocrisy of the mil-

itary's position that homosexuals are bad for morale, given that gays and lesbians are less likely to be discharged in times of war, when soldiers are needed most.

"Our general view is that these discharges show that we just don't need don't ask, don't tell," said Sharon Alexander, a lawyer for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, an advocacy group for homosexuals in the military. "The numbers are down because in a time of war, we need the best and the brightest that we can get. And the best and brightest include gay soldiers."

But, at a time when Arabic and Parsi translators are needed in Iraq and Afghanistan, the military continues to discharge gay linguists, Alexander said. "Twenty linguists have been discharged in the last five years, and I'd say that one discharge under 'don't ask, don't tell' is one too many at this point."

In December, Servicemembers Legal Defense Network filed a lawsuit against the Department of Defense, *Cook v. Rumsfeld*, in federal court in Massachusetts on behalf of 12 lesbian and gay veterans seeking reinstatement in the armed forces. Each plaintiff was discharged under don't ask, don't tell and three served in direct support of operations in the Middle East.

Navy relieves San Francisco skipper of command

BY JON R. ANDERSON
Stars and Stripes

The commander of the nuclear-powered submarine that ran aground last month in the Western Pacific, killing one sailor and wounding dozens, was relieved of command in a quiet, behind-closed-doors hearing Saturday morning in Japan.

Cmdr. Kevin Mooney was stripped of his command and issued a letter of reprimand for failing to implement "several critical navigational and voyage planning procedures," according to a Navy announcement after the hearing. "By not ensuring these standard procedures were followed, Mooney hazarded his vessel," reads the announcement.

Mooney did not face criminal charges from the incident. However, receiving a letter of reprimand essentially ends a Navy officer's career.

Cmdr. Andrew Hale, deputy commander of Submarine Squadron 15, who was given temporary command of the San Francisco as the incident was being investigated, is now the skipper.

Mooney appeared before 7th Fleet commander Vice Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert at fleet headquarters in Yokosuka on Saturday morning in what the Navy dubs "admiral's mast," a form of nonjudicial punishment that stops short of the criminal proceedings of a court-martial.

He was reprimanded for hazardous naval vessel. "Greenert's spokesman Cmdr. Ike Skelton told Stars and Stripes. "Cmdr. Mooney also was relieved due to a loss of confidence in his ability to command."

Skelton was unable to point to any specific evidence or exactly what standard procedures were not being followed that led Green-



Cmdr. Kevin Mooney

ert to his conclusions. At issue from the beginning has been whether Mooney had access to charts that would have indicated dangerous waters in his area. "I have no details on that," said Skelton.

Much of the Pacific Ocean's vast and varied underwater landscape remains poorly charted and Pentagon officials have said the primary maps given to Mooney indicated no dangerous obstacles where the crash took place on Jan. 8, about 350 miles south of the submarine's homeport in Guam.

Also unclear is what led Greenert to proceed with the admiral's mast before the investigation into the accident was complete.

Skelton said some information had surfaced in the course of the investigation that "Vice Adm. Greenert felt ... was enough evidence to proceed to nonjudicial punishment proceedings." Skelton said he was unaware of what that information was.

Unlike most nonjudicial hearings throughout most of the military, sailors in sea-going com-



MARK ALLEN LEONISIO/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS San Francisco is dry docked at U.S. Naval Base Guam, where personnel are assessing whether the vessel, which ran into an undersea mountain 350 miles south of Guam on Jan. 8, can be salvaged.

mands are unable to appeal orders to mast by demanding a court-martial trial if they feel the charges and adjudication are unjust.

Sources close to the case say Mooney would have preferred risking criminal conviction that might result from a court-martial, but with the right of being judged by a jury of his peers.

In a three-page letter to Green-

ert obtained by Stars and Stripes, Mooney's boss, Rear Adm. P.F. Sullivan, the commander of Pacific submarine forces, made an impassioned plea for Mooney.

Although Sullivan said Mooney should be held accountable for any "questionable" practices, he praised the submarine commander for turning the USS San Francisco, which had been plagued with leadership and maintenance problems, into one of the best vessels in the fleet.

It was Mooney's crew that was able to save the ship after the collision, despite heavy casualties. The Navy says 98 of the 137-strong crew were injured; 23 were so badly hurt they could not stand duty as the submarine slowly limped back to Guam where it is now in dry dock to see if it can be salvaged.

Juliana Gitter contributed to this report.
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andersonj@mail.estripes.osd.mil



FRED ZIMMERMAN/Stars and Stripes

Kinnick High School sophomore Angela Watts received rare reviews at the Far East Speech and Drama Festival held last week on Camp Foster, Okinawa.

Kinnick's Watts shines at drama festival

BY FRED ZIMMERMAN
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The halls at Kubasaki High School were filled with more drama than usual last week, but it wasn't due to typical teenage problems. It was because the school was filled with actors.

More than 150 students from the 13 Department of Defense Dependents Schools high schools throughout the Pacific converged at Kubasaki for the annual Far East Speech and Drama Festival.

Each school fielded a drama team of up to 12 students, according to Kathryn Nielsen, this year's festival director. There

were a total of 11 events, Nielsen said, ranging from comedic one-person pantomime presentations to one-act plays involving a whole team.

Many of this year's performances addressed current issues and topics important to teens.

One performance that had both students and faculty members talking was that of Angela Watts, a sophomore at Kinnick High School in Yokosuka, Japan. She performed a solo piece called "My Dad Left the Country Today," and it dealt with a topic familiar to many of the students.

She played a girl whose father deployed for six months in support of a war. The short piece fea-

tured all the emotions the character dealt with and ended with the girl waking one morning to a man's voice. When the girl came down the stairs, she saw a green uniform and thought it was her father, but by the time she reached the bottom step, she realized it was another man delivering some bad news.

"I picked it because I thought it was a nice piece with a lot of emotion in it," said Watts, who was participating in the festival for the first time.

All performances are graded, Nielsen said. Drama pieces are judged on such things as empathetic portrayal of a character, dialogue tempo, interaction among

characters and structure of the play or scene. The public-speaking categories are graded on things such as delivery, organization, development of topic and use of language.

Drama students hold the Speech and Drama Festival in "high esteem," appreciating the opportunity to perform before their peers, Nielsen said.

"They discussed the effect of competition upon performance today," she said. "[The] conclusion is that it heightens the level of performance, emotion, characterization, [and provides] the opportunity to grow both academically and socially."

E-mail Fred Zimmerman at: zimmermanf@stripes.osd.mil



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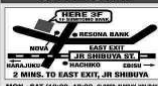
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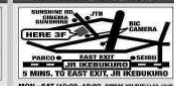
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North Korea urges nation to be loyal to Kim Jong Il

The Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korea urged its impoverished people Saturday to rally around their leader Kim Jong Il, after Washington re-buffed the communist

North's demand that the two sides hold bilateral talks to curb nuclear tension.

The North this week declared for the first time publicly that it possessed nuclear weapons.

Pyeongyang's state-run daily newspaper Rodong Sinmun allotted the whole front page of its Saturday edition to an editorial by the official news agency KCNA saying "the single-minded unity serves as the strongest weapon."

"At a time like today, when the situation gets tense no talk is more important than to strengthen our single-minded unity," the editorial said.

Minju Joon, another state-run daily, said that "devotedly protecting the leader is our life and soul."

North Korea also repeated warnings of military clashes on its loosely defined and tense western sea border with South Korea. It accused the South of infiltrating a ship into the communist state's waters Saturday following "a grave situation created due to the U.S. imperialist warheads' invulnerable hostile policy toward the [North]."

With this week's nuclear declaration, Kim brandished his strongest diplomatic card yet and dramatically escalated the nuclear standoff with Washington and its allies. North Korea's claim could not be independently verified.

It remained unclear whether North Korea intended to remain a nuclear power or was trying to use the weapons as a bargaining chip to win aid, diplomatic recognition and a nonaggression treaty with Washington — measures the North believes will guarantee the survival of Kim's regime.

Nation holds kissing fest

MANILA, Philippines — Thousands of couples got Valentine's Day celebrations going early in the Philippines, locking lips at midnight Saturday in what organizers dubbed "Lopalaloza 2."

More than 5,300 couples had kissed for at least 10 seconds last Valentine's Day in Manila for an event dubbed "Lopalaloza," breaking China's record of 4,445 in the Guinness World Records book.

This year's was aimed at "a million kisses," said a statement from top paste maker Unilever Philippines, one of the event's organizers.

From The Associated Press



Kim Jong Il

Car bombings kill 18 in Baghdad

BY ROBERT H. REID

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A car bomb killed 17 people Saturday and injured 21 others in a mostly Shiite Muslim town south of Baghdad, and U.S. troops battled with tanks battled rebels in the country's third largest city as the insurgency showed no sign of abating after national elections.

Another car bomb exploded in an eastern Baghdad neighborhood as a U.S. military convoy passed, killing an Iraqi woman and wounding three others but causing no American casualties, Iraqi police said.

The bomb exploded about a half mile from a U.S. Army base.

The car bomb south of Baghdad exploded

near the main hospital in Musayyib, a mostly Shiite town 35 miles south of Baghdad along the Euphrates River. The town is in a religiously mixed area that has been the scene of frequent attacks by Sunni Muslim insurgents.

It appeared the attack was part of a campaign by Sunni Arab extremists against the country's Shites — an estimated 60 percent of Iraq's 26 million people — who stand on the verge of a major victory as officials finish the final counting from the Jan. 30 national elections.

Iraqi officials would announce the final results of the Jan. 30 national elections on Sunday, Farid Ayar, a spokesman for the election commission said on Al-Arabiya television Saturday.

The commission will meet Sunday morning to finalize the disputed issues and then announce the final figures in the afternoon, he said.

The results will be considered official after three days.

Partial returns released early this week showed a Shiite Muslim-dominated ticket endorsed by the Shiite clergy running first among the 111 candidate lists. A Kurdish coalition was running second.

The ticket headed by pro-U.S. interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi was running a distant third.

The new assembly will elect a president and two vice presidents, who then will choose a prime minister, who will form a government subject to the legislature's approval.

U.S. ups advertising of \$25M bin Laden bounty

BY RUDOLPH BUSH

Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON — Radio spots promoting a \$25 million reward for information leading to the capture of Osama bin Laden and another \$25 million for his deputy, Ayman al-Zawahiri, are airing in the rural mountains of northwest Pakistan for the first time this week.

Television ads promising that fortune in return for bin Laden ran on two Pakistani stations last weekend, and will run regularly on Pakistan's biggest station starting Tuesday.

And last month, newspaper ads appeared for the first time in the

country's major cities featuring the faces of bin Laden, al-Zawahiri and other top al-Qaida lieutenants.

The ads are the result of legislation written by U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk, R-Ill., and pushed into law late last year by fellow Illinois Republican Rep. Henry Hyde, chairman of the House International Relations Committee. The two took action after learning that little had been done since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to publicize the rewards program aimed at capturing al-Qaida's leaders where they are believed to be hiding.

Kirk, who in late January returned from a trip to the Paki-

stani tribal region of Waziristan, remembers the moment he realized the trail to bin Laden had gone cold, he said.

On a trip to Islamabad in January 2004, he visited the U.S. Embassy and asked then-Ambassador Nancy Powell who was overseeing the publicity surrounding the rewards program.

"The ambassador said, 'I don't know who is working the rewards program,' which was stunning to me," Kirk said.

There were no radio ads about the program, even on the Voice of America station where they cost the government nothing, said the staff member, who asked not to be named.

"We came back saying, 'What a disaster,'" he said.

Today, there is a new ambassador in Pakistan and the embassy has hired an advertising agency to write the newspaper ads and produce the radio and television spots that will air on Pakistani stations, as well as on the BBC station that tribal leaders have said they prefer.

So far, the United States has spent \$100,000 on the combined advertising.

In the days after the first newspaper ads hit the streets in January, two people provided tips about bin Laden's whereabouts that are still being vetted, the International Relations Committee staff member said.

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Study: Only 4 in 10 know how many U.S. troops killed in Iraq

BY THOMAS HARGROVE
AND GUIDO H. STEMPEL III
Scripps Howard News Service

Most Americans guess wrong when asked to estimate how many troops have died in the U.S. occupation of Iraq, a sign that many are giving scant attention to the nation's most dangerous military operation since the Vietnam War.

A new survey of 1,001 adults conducted by Scripps Howard News Service and Ohio University found that fewer than half said they "very closely" follow news coverage of the military occupation. Less than a third named "the war on terror" or "peace in the Middle East" as the most important issue facing America. Most others preferred domestic concerns like the economy, Social Security, education or health care.

So far this year, soldiers and Marines have died at a rate of about three per day in the conflict. More than 1,450 military personnel and several dozen civilian employees of the Defense Department have died since Operation Iraqi Freedom began nearly two years ago.

Forty percent of people in the poll gave the correct answer when asked, to the nearest 500, how many troops died in the six-week war and the bloody military occupation that followed. Thirty-two percent guessed that 1,000 or fewer have died, 21 percent said 2,000 or more have died and 7 percent could not make a guess.

People who oppose the war tend to overestimate the number

of fatalities in Iraq while those who support it are more likely to underestimate the death toll.

The survey also asked, "How carefully would you say you follow news media coverage of America's military occupation of Iraq?"

Forty-two percent said "very closely," 47 percent said "somehow closely" and 11 percent said "not closely."

People who said they are following news closely are much more likely to know how many Americans have died in Iraq than people who don't read or watch war accounts in newspapers and on television.

The proportion who correctly identified that "about 1,500" have died in Iraq was 51 percent.

among people who follow war news "very closely," 34 percent among those who follow news accounts "somewhat closely" and 25 percent who are "not closely" following news from Iraq.

People were also asked, "Despite everything that has happened, do you think the United States has done a good thing or a bad thing by sending our military to occupy Iraq?" Forty-seven percent said the United States has done "a good thing," 44 percent said it's "a bad thing" and 9 percent were undecided.

The survey was conducted by telephone from Jan. 30 through Feb. 10 at the Scripps Survey Research Center at Ohio University. It has a margin of error of about 4 percentage points. It was funded through a grant from the Scripps Foundation.

The question

Please don't be embarrassed if you don't know the answer to this question. Give me your best guess: About how many American troops have died in Iraq in the past two years? Is it less than 500, about 500, about 1,000, about 1,500, about 2,000 or more than 2,000?

Less than 500 troops have died: 5 percent
About 500 have died: 7 percent
About 1,000 have died: 20 percent
About 1,500 have died: 40 percent
About 2,000 have died: 11 percent
More than 2,000 have died: 10 percent
Don't know: 7 percent
— Scripps Howard News Service

Professors feel political heat

Academics under fire

BY DAN ELLIOTT
The Associated Press

DENVER — Academic freedom has never completely protected professors who make unpopular statements. One was fired in 1960 for suggesting that premarital sex among students could be a good thing. Three decades later, a department chair was demoted for saying a Jewish conspiracy denigrated blacks in the movies.

Now experts say the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks have put new fire in the battle over just where academic freedom ends and misconduct — or even treason — begins.

University of Colorado professor Ward Churchill could be fired pending an investigation prompted by his 2001 essay suggesting some World Trade Center victims were tolling away like efficient Nazi bureaucrats.

There are no exact figures on attempts to fire or discipline professors since Sept. 11, but experts say they have probably increased. The fight is especially fierce at state universities, where some question whether taxpayers must pay the salaries of professors they find unpatriotic or outrageous.

"We have never been free of the issue of professors coming under intense scrutiny or attack for having written something somebody finds utterly loathsome," said Jonathan Knight of the American Association of University Professors in Washington.

Overall, challenges to American professors tend to be mild compared with the attacks academics suffered during the anti-communist investigations spurred by Sen. Joseph McCarthy in the 1950s, said Robert O'Neil, director of the Thomas

A look at recent cases of professors being disciplined, criticized or let go for unpopular statements.

■ The University of Illinois fired biology professor Leo F. Koch in 1960 for a letter to the editor of the campus newspaper that read: "A mutually satisfactory sexual experience would eliminate the need for many hours of frustrating petting and lead to much happier and longer-lasting marriages among our younger men and women."

■ Leonard Jeffries Jr. lost the chairmanship of African-American studies at the City College of New York in 1992 after saying in a speech that "Russian Jewry had a particular control over the movies, and their financial partners, the media, put together a system for the destruction of black people." He sued but lost.

Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression in Charlottesville, Va.

O'Neil said universities have handled most post-Sept. 11 complaints about professors properly by submitting them to formal review, as Colorado is doing with Churchill and as the University of New Mexico did for Richard Berthold, a former history professor who told students hours after the Sept. 11 attacks: "Anyone who can blow up the Pentagon has my

vote." The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, recently accused economics professor Hans Hoppe of "mischaracterizing opinion as objective fact" by saying in a lecture that gays save less money than heterosexuals. Hoppe has threatened to sue.

■ A faculty panel is looking into allegations that three Columbia University professors mock Jewish students and that the department of Middle East and Asian languages and cultures favors Palestinian sympathizers. The professors say the allegations are the result of misunderstandings or fabrications.

■ University of Colorado environmental studies professor Adrienne Anderson says her contract was not renewed because of her critiques of corporate environmental policies. Anderson said she plans to appeal.

— The Associated Press

See related column on Page 14

vote." The university resisted enormous pressure to fire him, instead conducting a review and eventually issuing a letter of reprimand after he apologized.

Berthold says the discipline system worked only because he caved in under pressure. He retired two years later.

"Berthold says I served the institution and my society very well for 30 years."

Dean elected to lead Democrats

BY WILL LESTER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats elected Howard Dean chairman of their national party on Saturday, casting their lot with a skilled fund-raiser and organizer whose sometimes caustic, blunt comments can lead to controversy.

The 447-member Democratic National Committee chose Dean on a voice vote to replace outgoing party chief Terry McAuliffe.

The former Vermont governor and presidential candidate had promised to rebuff the state parties, take the offensive against Republicans, and better explain the party positions on issues.

Democrats are eager to renew their campaign to regain political power, though some admit to a bit of anxiety, with Republicans firmly in control of almost everything.

"We only have one way to go, and that's up," Georgia delegate Lonnie Platt said.

For Joyce Cusack, a Florida delegate, it's time for Democrats to embrace their party's values.

"We are trying so hard to be like Republicans and we're not. I think Howard Dean says clearly that we are different," Cusack said.

Democratic leaders, who were initially wary of a Dean chairmanship, started embracing his leadership after it became apparent

he was strong enough to claim the job. Several high-profile Democrats considering a bid for chairman backed out of the race.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, not always a Dean supporter, said Friday, "He has used the power of technology, the force of his personality and the depth of his ideals to bring new people into the party."

Dean told Democratic committee members Friday that it's important to learn to be more comfortable discussing the party's core values.

"The way I hope to deal with that problem is not to abandon our core principles, but talk about them in a different way," he said.

Democrats are not pro-abortion, but "we are the party in favor of allowing women to make up their own minds about their health care," Dean, a physician, said.

Democrats are not for gay marriage, but "we are the party that has always believed in equal rights under the law for all people," he said.

"We are the party of moral values," Dean said. "There is nothing moral about cutting \$300 million that is used to feed starving children."

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Studies suggest testing all Americans for HIV

BY LINDA A. JOHNSON

The Associated Press

Urging a major shift in U.S. policy, some health experts are recommending that virtually all Americans be tested routinely for the AIDS virus, much as they are for cancer and other diseases.

Since the early years of the AIDS epidemic in the 1980s, the government has recommended screening only in big cities, where AIDS rates are high, and among members of high-risk groups, such as gay men and drug addicts.

But two large, federally funded studies found that the cost of routinely testing and treating nearly all adults would be outweighed by a reduction in new infections and the opportunity to start patients on drug cocktails early, when they work best.

"Given the availability of effective therapy and preventive measures, it is possible to improve care and perhaps influence the course of the epidemic through widespread, effective and cost-effective screening," Dr. Samuel A. Bozzette wrote in an editorial accompanying the studies, which appear in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

A failure to institute such screening at doctors' offices and clinics would be "a critical disservice" to patients with the AIDS virus and "the future health of the nation," wrote Bozzette, who is from the University of California at San Diego and the Rand Corp. think tank in Santa Monica, Calif.

Dr. Robert Janssen, director of HIV-AIDS prevention at the Centers for

The case for screening everyone

The problem: Many HIV patients aren't diagnosed until symptoms begin. At that point, today's powerful drug cocktails are less effective in controlling the virus and prolonging life.

New data: Two large studies find that testing all adults once, and testing people in major cities or high-risk groups every three to five years, would be a cost-effective way to reduce new infections about 20 percent each year and get patients needed help.

Current policy: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends HIV testing only for people in high-risk groups or cities.

Impact: A top CDC official says the agency will consider the data if it re-evaluates its policy and expects some private insurers now will encourage more HIV testing.

—The Associated Press

Disease Control and Prevention, said the CDC will re-evaluate its guidelines over the next two years, and will consider the study's findings as well as the availability of new, rapid HIV tests that produce results in a half-hour instead of the usual week or two.

Who would bear the cost of expanded testing — and the cost of the treatment, which runs to at least \$15,000 a year — remains a sticky question amid government cutbacks in health-care funding.

However, Janssen said the studies' findings could lead to some private insurers to encourage more HIV testing.

One of the studies, by researchers at Duke and Stanford universities and the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System, estimated that routine one-time testing of everyone would cut new infections each year by just over 20 percent, and that every HIV-infected patient identified would gain an average of 1½ years of life.

The other study, by Yale and Harvard researchers, found that testing people every three to five years would be cost-effective for all but the lowest-risk people, such as those who are celibate or are in monogamous heterosexual relationships. And even for those people, one-time testing was found to be cost-effective.

Nationwide, about 40,000 new HIV infections occur each year, an estimated 950,000 people are infected with the virus, but about 280,000 of them don't know it.

CDC guidelines recommend routine tests wherever the prevalence of HIV infection is more than 1 percent — basically, cities and some densely populated suburbs.

"If you need proof of the fact that it's not working, look at all the people who have slipped through the cracks — 280,000," said A. David Paltiel of the Yale School of Medicine's division of health policy, lead author of the second study.

New HIV strain detected in N.Y.

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — City health officials are working to track down sex partners of a man diagnosed with a rare strain of highly drug-resistant HIV that progressed rapidly to AIDS.

The virus was found in a man in his mid-40s who had unprotected sex with other men, often while using crystal methamphetamine, an addictive stimulant, health officials said Friday.

"We are not aware of another case like this in the United States, or elsewhere," said Dr. Ron Valdiserri, deputy director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention.

The New York Times, citing a person familiar with the case whom it did not identify, reported Saturday that the man was believed to have had unprotected sex with hundreds of people.

The onset of AIDS appears to have occurred within two to three months, and at most 20 months, after infection. Frieden said HIV can take 10 years to develop into AIDS.

Some AIDS experts were skeptical. Dr. Robert C. Gallo, a co-discoverer of the AIDS virus and director of the Institute of Human Virology at the University of Maryland, said some patients progress more rapidly to AIDS because they are highly susceptible.



The 23rd

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Where are we heading from here? What shape will the international society we envision take?

"Shalom" is known as a greeting of peace, but its meaning is said to be "the world without anything lacking". It signifies that it is an utmost prayer for the ideal society which in reality could never be reached. Nevertheless, if we did not tread the path leading toward it, what value would our living hold in this world?

World peace may be said to grow upon the ground of mutual understanding of nations. At the least how can we realize an effective communication to forestall the occurrences of armed clashes which deprive the irreplaceable human lives?

We know the importance of peace, but do we possess the needed skills? Will the means toward it be the English language? Or will it be Chinese?

However, even if we are skilled in foreign languages, if we did not possess the

persuasive messages, nothing would be achieved.

We hear of the often repeated comment that the Japanese are not good at communications.

It is true that the language skill is indispensable, but if the messages are void of meaningful content, communication for world peace will not go very far. In this respect we ought to constantly improve our knowledge for building world peace no less than our efforts for polishing up our language skills.

It is from this concern that this year's international symposium was conceived. The panelists are all deeply involved in international activities and made many friends in foreign lands. The symposium is so designed that with your participation from the floor, we drive at arriving at a way for each of us to help bring about a viable international society through our improved skills and contents of communications.

Panelists



Ms. Fujiko HARA
President,
Diplomat, Inc.
Conference
Interpreter



Dr. Sven SAALER
Humanities Group
Manager,
German Institute for
Japanese Studies



Dr. Kimie OSHIMA
Associate Professor,
Bunkyo Gakuin
University
English Rakugo
Producer



Dr. Kimihiro MIWA
President,
Minato UNESCO
Association
Professor Emeritus,
Sophia University

Coordinator

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FACES

Simpson denies split stories

Jessica Simpson is denying rumors of any impending split with husband Nick Lachey — again.

After tabloids ran pictures of Lachey, 31, surrounded by cheerleaders at a Super Bowl party in Jacksonville, Fla., and reports of a dinner with ex-girlfriend Jordana Jurjura, Simpson says their difficulties have been greatly exaggerated.

"I trust Nick totally, and he trusts me," Simpson told *Us Weekly* magazine. "We are committed to our relationship."

Simpson says she was unaware of Lachey's meeting with Jurjura, and while it was "innocent," it was also a learning experience.

"There are lessons to be learned," says Simpson. "Now Nick and I will tell each other about something like this ahead of time."

The stars of MTV's "Newlyweds: Nick & Jessica" have been beset by tabloid speculation on their marriage's imminent doom. But Simpson, 24, says that even when they are in different places, they are close.

"He's always the last person I talk to before I go to sleep."



Simpson

Wynn puts chips on Grammy ads

Casino impresario Steve Wynn doesn't need the Super Bowl. He's got the Oscars.

The billionaire will use Hollywood's biggest stage to air a commercial about his \$2.7 billion Wynn Las Vegas megaresort that's slated to open April 28.

Wynn decided to book time on the Academy Awards, which will air Feb. 27 on ABC, after the NFL shot down a national Super Bowl spot on Fox because his commercial was associated with gambling, a long-standing league taboo.

Elton John to star in July Fourth AIDS benefit

Singer Elton John will entertain at Fourth of July events in Philadelphia to promote awareness and raise money for the fight against HIV/AIDS.



John

John will perform with Peter Nero and the Philly Pops orchestra at the Philadelphia Freedom Concert and Ball.

Organizers said they hope to draw 1.5 million people and raise \$2 million for the Elton John AIDS Foundation and Philadelphia's Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld Fund.

John said he recently spent time in South Africa and saw his foundation's work in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

"It will be a long fight, and one that must be met with strength and compassion, but we can all make a difference. I met with vulnerable and orphaned children who have been left destitute."

57-year-old rocker said in a one-minute appearance by satellite from Las Vegas, where he is performing at Caesars Palace.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

NFL pros lend hand in Indonesia

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN

The Associated Press

LAMNO, Indonesia — Like most Indonesian children, the kids in the remote coastal town of Lamno had never heard of American football — let alone New York Giants' quarterback Kurt Warner.

But that didn't stop them from chasing the National Football League star and his teammate, wide receiver Amani Toomer, around a soccer field Saturday.

Warner, Toomer and their wives were flown in on a helicopter by the United Nations' World Food Program to help raise money for the long-term aid needs of Aceh province, where the Dec. 26 tsunami left more than 200,000 people dead or missing and many more homeless.

"I don't know who they (Warner and Toomer) are, but they are really nice," said Salehulha, a grinning 9-year-old in tattered shorts and a T-shirt who, like many Indonesians, goes by one name.

Warner said the devastation he



AP

New York Giants' quarterback Kurt Warner, right, high-fives with Acehine children as wide receiver Amani Toomer looks on during their visit Saturday in the town of Lamno, Aceh province, Indonesia.

saw was impossible to imagine.

"To actually think of lives and homes and the community as a whole and then to see all this — unbelievable," Warner said.

They helped unload a chopper full of rice, bottled water and

cooking oil destined for camps and feeding centers elsewhere along Sumatra island's coast. They also visited the USNS Mercy, a U.S. Navy hospital ship treating tsunami victims off Sumatra, where Aceh is located.

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Turning red on Valentine's Day

Men feel most heat when shopping for gifts for their significant others

BY SUE ANNE PRESSLEY

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — So far, most of the Valentine's Day customers at Kron Chocolaterie have been women, and that's about what co-owner Cheri Friedman has come to expect. By Monday, however, the small chocolate shop in Washington will be wall-to-wall men, clamoring to meet a love deadline that, for some, is more headache than heart song.

"We've had a few guys come in early and spend 15 minutes or a half-hour — Would she like this? Would she like that? There are some of those still out there," Friedman said. "But the last-minute guys come in, and they'll take whatever's on the shelf."

Perhaps it is unfair to highlight the gender differences involved in shopping for a holiday already burdened with romantic symbolism.

But as Valentine's Day becomes an ever-bigger commercial event, pressure has grown to mark the day lavishly, and it is apparently men who feel most of the heat.

"It's the one holiday where every man shops," said Marcia Levi, owner of Chocolate Moose in downtown Washington. "I've seen the type who clearly does it out of obligation. And then there's the husband who knows his wife's sizes and whether she likes short or dangly earrings — I'm not sure I'd want mine to be that involved."

With the flood of advertisements for Valentine jewelry, candy, lingerie, romantic getaways and other items, there's no escaping the fact that a major gift-giving occasion is on the horizon. Listeners of a local sports radio station are being prodded for last-minute gifts, such as teddy bears or flower bouquets, that can be ordered online or through toll-free numbers.

"Most of our audience is male," said Chris Johnson, a senior producer with SportsTalk 980. "And in a jokingly playful way, we're saying, 'Come on, guys, you know you haven't bought anything yet.'"

At one time, Jeff Passel was moved by such entreaties, but not anymore. "I really don't like to shop for Valentine's Day, and I don't really have to. I've worked out a deal," said Passel, a demographer in his mid-fifties who lives in Arlington, Va.

Because their wedding anniversary falls on Feb. 29, a date not always found on the calendar, Passel and his wife, Ellen, have started going to the Baltimore Craft Show in late February as a combination anniversary-Valentine outing. "She gets to buy some things, and I get to buy some things," Passel explained.

"Valentine's Day by itself is a tough one," he said, "especially for the guys. I don't know what it is, but it's easy to go astray."

That's why this deal has worked out so well for me.

Becky Baines, 22, a marketing assistant who lives in Arlington, said many of her female friends with steady boyfriends are abuzz about Valentine's Day. They have high expectations. "Some of them wouldn't be surprised or even maybe half-expecting to get an engagement ring, but they don't want to say anything," she said.

Jonathan Tycko, on the other hand, said he likes to buy his wife, Joan, candy or books but no longer feels the pressure to produce an eye-popping gift. "She's different once you've married than when you're in the dating stages," said Tycko, 36, a lawyer who lives in Bethesda, Md.

Some people end up making their own fun. "I do have a lot of women who come in and say, 'Well, my husband won't buy me the good stuff, so I'll buy it and eat it myself,'" said Friedman of Kron Chocolaterie.

Others, such as Jules Bernstein, leap at the opportunity to shop for the women in their lives — in this case, his two granddaughters and wife, Linda Lipsett. "My wife said, 'Why don't you do me a favor and get the girls something?'" said Bernstein, 69 and a lawyer, as he scanned the card rack at Chocolate Moose. "And I said, 'That's not a favor, that's a joy.' Because I'm just in to love with my wife and my family."



Fran Compagno, who calls herself a dating coach, poses at her laptop at her home in Woodside, Calif.

Can online video clips help steer Cupid's little arrows?

BY RACHEL KONRAD

The Associated Press

After exchanging instant messages and digital photos through an online dating site, Christopher Boykin flew to Houston to meet what he hoped would be a beautiful soul mate. What he found was a babby misanthrope with an apparent drinking problem.

"She was a total nut case," said the 35-year-old architect from Venice, Fla. "I'm sure at one time she was very pretty but she had really let herself go. I decided right then that I need more information before I'd go on another date with someone I met online."

Boykin's new policy: He'll only date women who post videos or use Web cameras in virtual chat rooms. Like other "early adopters" of the technology, he insists that videos provide far more information than standard photos, which may be doctored or out of date, snapped before Juliet added another 20 pounds or Romeo lost his hair.

Some of the largest sites — including Match.com — reject videos partly because employees can't monitor thousands of hours of amateur footage for pornography, nudity or other behavior deemed inappropriate. Others warn that videos can elevate acting skills over characteristics that make or break a relationship, such as religion and financial compatibility.

But even skeptics agree that videos are gaining popularity among the estimated 20 million Americans who visit online dating sites each month. Nearly one in four U.S. singles have used online dating services, according to Date.com.

Only 10 percent of 2.8 million active users at True.com post videos, but the percentage is rising

quickly and online profiles with video get more hits than those without, said Taylor Cole, senior director of marketing at Irving, Texas-based True.com, which launched videos last summer.

"Once people understand the benefit of actually hearing someone's voice and seeing them in a broader perspective than just a static photo, they'll never want to go back to simple pictures and e-mail," Cole said.

Lavalife.com added videos for its 700,000 active members last year, catching up to Yahoo! Personals, which began to allow video clips in January 2003.

Lavalife brand manager Lori Miller has been surprised by the kinds of people who use the service. Although 18- to 34-year-olds are the biggest audience at Toronto-based Lavalife, many videos are from people in their 40s, 50s and 60s. "Their sense of humor comes out," Miller said. "They don't just recreate their profile and say, 'I'm Lori and I'm 35 and looking to meet a guy.' They're really trying to get across another aspect of their personality."

Fran Compagno dating coach also provide a window into physical surroundings.

Would you prefer to view your prospective mate in a disheveled living room or immaculate kitchen? Biker bar or artsy cafe? High-rise condo or high-altitude campsite? Fran Compagno, a Palo Alto, Calif.-based dating coach, said videos provide data that photos, questionnaires and instant message banter can't. Does he gesticulate wildly? That might be a turnoff.

"One major problem with online dating is that you generally have to date so many people to find one you really like — online daters go on a lot of first dates but not many seconds," Compagno said. "More information almost always is better."

New York radio station offers free divorce as Valentine's Day gift

BY WILLIAM KATES

The Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Cupid occasionally misses his mark, so a local radio station is running a Valentine's Day contest offering a free divorce.

"Everyone associates Valentine's Day with love, and diamonds, chocolate, roses. But what about those people that hate it. This is for those people," said Scott Petibone, program director at WKRL-FM, a progressive rock station based in Syracuse and Utica.

The station, known as K-Rock, began promoting its divorce-gift away Monday. By Thursday, the station received over 100 entries. Petibone said. A winner will be selected on Valentine's Day.

Although some contestants are offering explicit explanations of

why they want a divorce, Petibone said none is necessary. However, the divorce must be uncontested.

"We're not looking for the most horrible stories or the most vicious couples," he said.

The free divorce will be han-

dled by lawyer Brad Margolis. A divorced without custody issues, where both husband and wife want to split and agree on how to divide their assets, costs at least \$1,390 — about \$1,000 in legal fees and \$390 in state filing costs, he said.

MONDAY EVENING / FEBRUARY 14, 2005

MOVIES

SPORTS

J	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30	
6	AFN-P	ESPN News	AFN Evening News	The 47th Annual Grammy Awards Festivities honor excellence in the recording industry, at the Staples Center in Los Angeles; Kanye West, U2, Green Day, Alicia Keys and Tim McGraw are scheduled to perform; a tribute to Ray Charles, Queen Latifah hosts. (CC)						Pacific Report	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (CC)		
7	AFN-AT	(6:46) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	(3:38) Guiding Light (CC)	(1:17) General Hospital (CC)	Headline News	Judge Judy (CC)	Today (CC)	Aladdin Strike Up					ChalkZone (E) (CC)
8	NEWS	Bulls and Bears	Carveto on Business (CC)	Forbes (CC)	Cashin' In (CC)	60 Minutes (CC)	For and Friends	Fox and Friends					American Morning
9	SPTS	***5000 College Basketball*** Washington at Oregon. (Taped)											
10	SPTS	The Simpsons	Everybody Loves Raymond (N)	The Dead Zone: No Questions Asked? Crime from the past haunts Johnny. (CC)	Law & Order: "Genius" Detectives investigate a cab driver's death. (CC)	Monster House "Tropical House" An island paradise. (CC)	Friends Monica and Chandler visit their cousin. (CC)	Seinfeld Jerry accepts a suit from a woman. (CC)	Seinfeld George's ex-wife gets cosmetic. (CC)	Blind Date (CC)			
11	AFN-M	Friday's Oddpaddies	Rugrats (CC)	Lizzie McGuire	Taina	Smallville "Duplicity" (CC)	Boy Meets World	Boy Meets World	The Cosby Show	Home Improvement	Touched by an Angel (CC)		
12	AFN-M	Entertainment Tonight	***S*** (\$ Dollars) (1971, Suspense) Wesley Snipes, Eddie Harris, Get Fritzo. A bank security expert and a hooker run out of criminals. PG-13	***Life as a House*** (2001, Drama) Kevin Kline, Kristin Scott Thomas. (CC)	***Dangerous Minds*** (1995, Drama) George Dzundza, Courtney B. Vance. A teacher works on a class of educational misfits. 'R	Antiques Roadshow "Omaha" Omaha, Neb., railroad and train collectibles, paper-derby. (CC)	American Experience "Fidel Castro" Cuban dictator Fidel Castro survives assassination plot. (CC) (DVS)	48 ***The Core*** (2003, Science Fiction) Aaron Eckhart, Hilary Swank, Delroy Lindo. Earth's dead core must spin again or humanity will perish. PG-13 (N)					
14	TMC	Dragon Tales Max	Zoom A little piggy scares Old Man with a spider. (E)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N) (CC) (DVS)									
24	PBS	***Renegade Man*** (1984, Comedy) Danny Davis, Gregory Hines, James Remar. An ad exec takes a job teaching inexperienced Army recruits. PG-13											
25	SHOW	City Confidential: Carthage: From Assets' Popular character in accused of playing a wealthy widower. (CC)	American Justice: Love Triangle? A Michigan lawyer is charged with murdering his pregnant wife. (CC)										
27	A&E	To Be Announced	To Be Announced										
28	DISC	To Be Announced	To Be Announced										
29	TFC	(1:15) TV Patrol World	Tanging Ina										
30	CNN+	CNN Presents: Classroom Edition	CNN Day Edition										
31	GOLF	(4:30) Golf New Zealand Open - Final Round	Golf Central										
32	TLC	Tsunami Survival Stories	Incredible Medical Mysteries 'Growing Up Old' Progenia ages children's bodies. (CC)	The Next Wave: Science of Tsunamis (CC)									
34	TOON	Powerpuff Girls	Dexter's Laboratory	Courage the Cowardly Dog	He-Man and the Masters of the Universe	Justice League	Teen Titans	Cartoon Cartoon	Cartoon shorts.				
35	ANPL	Who Gets the Dog? Rocky 'Three teams compete for Rocky. (N)	Animal Cops San Francisco An officer is called in to contain a dangerous pit.										
36	COM	(4:30) ***Orange County*** (2000, CC)	South Park A mission trip to the North Pole. (CC)	Blue Collar TV You Might Be a Redneck Too. (CC)	Reno 911! Dysfunctionality's best. (CC)	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	Reno 911! Dysfunctionality's best. (CC)	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	Travel Sick 'Sin City' French kissing. (CC)	Travel Sick 'Sin City' French kissing. (CC)	
40	NGCA	Planet Wild: Rivers and Swamps	WildTech: Amazon Jungle Whales	Snake Wonders 'Venom Harvest' (CC)	Croc Chronicles 'Narcissus' (CC)	Baboon's Tale	Sea Hunters 'Kubla Khan's Lost Reef'	Golden Baboons	Built for the Kill "Snare"				
43	SPKE	WWF Raw Scheduled: results from Royal Rumble. (CC)	(4:30) The Ultimate Fighter (N)										
44	FOX	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	The Simpsons	Seinfeld Jerry buys a car. (CC)	Trading Spouses: Meet Your New Mommy Mothers from Washington and New York trade houses. (N) (CC)	BET Nightline	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live 'John Legend' John Legend.	Clue Comic View				
46	BET	(5:00) ***South Central*** (1992) Glenn Plummer, Brian Keith, Mims.	The Parkers (CC)	The Parkers (CC)	The Parkers (CC)	The Parkers (CC)	The Parkers (CC)	The Parkers (CC)	The Parkers (CC)	The Parkers (CC)	The Parkers (CC)	The Parkers (CC)	
48	COURT	NYPD Blue 'In the Wind' Spontic finds the body of a stripper in Danny's apartment and the next week.	The Simpsons	The Drew Carey Show (CC)	Star News Focus	Friends (CC)	46th Annual 2005 Grammy Awards	46th Annual 2005 Grammy Awards	46th Annual 2005 Grammy Awards	46th Annual 2005 Grammy Awards	46th Annual 2005 Grammy Awards	46th Annual 2005 Grammy Awards	
48	STR-WLD	***Sex, Love and Lies*** (2004, Comedy-Drama) Scott Cohen, John Stamos, Annabeth Gish. A predatory lawyer gets a sexual chain reaction. (CC)											
50	LIFE	Whose Line is It Anyway? Greg	Whose Line is It Anyway? Sound Effects (CC)	Brat Camp (Part 4 of 4)									
51	ABC-FM	Digging for the Truth 'Pompeii Secrets Revealed' Vesuvius buries Roman ruins. (N) (CC)	Deep Sea Detectives Two locomotives and up seven miles off the coast of New Jersey. (CC)										
53	HIST	(5:45) ***The Flintstones*** (1994, Comedy) John Goodman, Elizabeth Perkins, Rick Moranis.											
57	STR-M	(5:30) Extreme Ironing	Game for It	Total Adventure 'Swimming Numb' (CC)									
58	ADV 1	Real World - Road Rules Challenge (CC)	Real World - Road Rules Challenge (CC)	Real World - Road Rules Challenge (CC)	The Osbournes (N)	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Wanna Come In? (CC)	Wanna Come In? (CC)	Wanna Come In? (CC)	
59	MTV	Real World - Road Rules Challenge (CC)	Real World - Road Rules Challenge (CC)	Real World - Road Rules Challenge (CC)	The Osbournes (N)	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Wanna Come In? (CC)	Wanna Come In? (CC)	Wanna Come In? (CC)	
60	NICK	Unfabulous 'The Picture' School picture day. (CC)	Rugrats Angelica's mom's having a baby. (CC)	The Fairly Odd Parents Tag Team: Boy Genius	SpongeBob SquarePants (CC)	Drake & Josh Drake prepares for a talent show.	Full House D.J. goes to junior high school. (CC)	Full House Jesse and Rebecca break up. (CC)	The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air Monty Berle goes in. (CC)	The Cosby Show Muppets appear in Cliff's dream.	Roseanne Roseanne goes to Hawaii. (CC)	Murphy Brown Murphy interviews ex-husband. (CC)	

JAPAN TV

Morning
10:25 Korean Drama: Sangdo Let's Go To School O.S.T. (4)

Afternoon
12:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (12)
1:30 U.S. Movie (1994): It Could Happen to You (2000) (12)
5:55 News (6)
Eveing

7:00 News (1)
7:30 News (2)
8:00 News (2)
2:28 Japan Pro Boxing (8)

JAPAN TV-B57

Morning
6:18 PGA Golf: AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am - Final Round

8:30 World News
9:15 World News
10:15 CBS Documentary: Pro-implantation Genetic Diagnosis (7)
11:15 CNN News

Afternoon
12:15 What's On Asia (7)
2:15 ABC News
3:15 CNN News
4:15 World News
5:15 Asian News

Eveing
6:15 CNN News
7:15 News Today Asia
8:15 News Today Asia
9:15 CBS Documentary: The Bombing War

11:15 NFL Pro Bowl: NFL All Stars vs. AFC All Stars
2:15 Asian News
3:35 World Adventure Sports

4:15 Asian News
5:15 World News Hour

JAPAN TV-B511

Morning
9:50 Aerobics
10:00 Classical Music: Pavel Shostakovich (guitar) (7)
10:15 ABC News

Afternoon
12:00 European Grand Circuit: Netherlands
3:00 U.S. Movie (1974): The Sugarland Express (15S)

Eveing
7:00 NIK News
8:00 U.S. Movie (1948): Key Largo (14S)
10:00 TV Series: ER (X)
12:00 Italian Movie (1948): Ladri di Biciclette (13S)

WOWOW

Morning
7:30 U.S. Movie (1995): To Catch a Thief (15S)
9:30 Grammy Awards 2005 (live)

Afternoon
3:00 U.S. Movie (1974): The Towering Inferno (15S)

Eveing
6:00 Spanish Soccer: Espana Espana
8:00 U.S. Movie (1995): The Untouchables (15S)
10:30 British-French-Canadian Movie (2002): Steel (13S)

MTV

Morning
6:00 Wake Up! 7:00 M Live Friday
8:00 Top Choice
10:00 Pure Music
11:00 Top Choice

Afternoon
12:00 Rocks
1:00 Classic
1:30 Top Choice
2:00 Pure Music
2:30 Winter Style in Kandatusu
3:00 Happy ST Valentine's Day Request Special
5:00 Music Download Chart Top 10

Eveing
6:00 Monday
7:00 U.S. Top 20 with Super D
9:00 Happy Birthday: Jessica Simpson Special

9:30 Top Choice
10:00 Rocks
11:00 Live to MTV Main Show: Black

12:00 Classic 90s
1:00 M Live Monday
2:00 Making the Video: Ashlee Simpson
2:30 Check the Rhythme
3:00 Fresh
3:30 After Hours

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Servicemembers, be proud

As we sit in the wake of Iraq's first-ever democratic election, I'd like to thank the men and women in our armed services for their efforts.

I served in Beirut, Lebanon. There were some heavy losses at that conflict, and one day we were all told to pack it up and go home—that was it. It was over.

I have carried the feeling that we fell short in accomplishing our mission, not because we were not ready, willing and capable, but because circumstances dictated otherwise. I have often wished for a better explanation for the lives that were taken, something I could explain to the families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

I am a Department of Defense contractor in Mosul, and I rode the coattails of our military men and women as they made it possible for the people of Iraq to vote for the first time in history, in relative safety, which appears to have increased their confidence in their own police force.

U.S. servicemembers should be very proud of what they have done, it is quite a historic accomplishment. And it is a privilege for me to be part of this.

Thomas Sims
Mosul, Iraq

You signed on the line

I totally agree that awards are not being given to the proper personnel, "the men that make it all possible" ("Don't give him

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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any medals," letter, Dec. 24.)

The ones who work behind a desk know they are safe. Yes, the ones behind a desk do work hard. I am not saying they don't, but those of us out there in forward observing bases have to deal with the stuff most can't even have nightmares about. It's so bad we have to work at the first sign of danger; those who work behind the desk work only at a 9-to-5 pace.

But I am not saying we deserve Bronze

Star medals because we are doing our job, what we signed on the dotted line for.

In reference to the letter writer who was serving past his estimated time in service date: You did swear in and volunteer to do any mission your country needs you for at a moment's notice. Remember the motto: "This will defend."

America is the best country in the world, and there are a lot of people who don't see why we have to be fighting a war in Iraq when they're their fault we are over here.

Now I have absolutely no right to call the letter writer a bad soldier or unpatriotic, but I will say this: He did volunteer for the Army and whatever it needs him for, so face it, there is no need to complain about something for which one volunteered. He should just be proud he is protecting the greatest nation in the world.

Sgt. Michael L. Bergman
Forward Operating Base Anzham, Afghanistan

Wants more Maryland news

I really enjoy reading Stars and Stripes. As a soldier serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, I miss knowing what is going on in Maryland. Could you please consider doing more Maryland news stories in the Northeast section of American Roundup?

This expanded coverage would truly make Stars and Stripes our hometown newspaper. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sgt. 1st Class Paul M. Blitz
Camp Victory, Kuwait

A contemptible professor's protections

It's impossible to feel sympathy for a character as vicious and stupid as Ward Churchill, so we won't bother trying. The University of Colorado professor was invited to speak at Hamilton College in upstate New York—until someone found an article he had written claiming that the people killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks richly deserved their fate.

Churchill compared the victims to Adolf Eichmann, one of the Nazis chiefly responsible for the Holocaust, because their supporters helped finance America's alleged atrocities abroad. They failed to grasp their complicity, he insisted, "because they were too busy braying, incessantly and self-importantly, into their cell phones, arranging power lunches and stock transactions," heedless of "the starved and rotting flesh of infants."

Of course, that lunatic description hardly applies to the flight attendants, firefighters, busboys, secretaries and janitors killed in the terrorist attacks. And if you can argue that stockbrokers contribute to and profit from America's alleged crimes abroad, you could say the same about university professors. Does that mean they deserve bullets—it's about permitting unpopular, in-

Ward Churchill in Boulder, Colo., Tuesday.

avalanche of complaints, insisted on honoring the invitation but gave up when threats of violence became too great. Those who issued the invitation say they didn't know about the article when they invited Churchill, who teaches ethnic studies, to talk about American Indian issues.

In light of the new information, the school can hardly be faulted for deciding not to furnish a forum for someone with such vile opinions. A private institution such as Hamilton has every right to choose not to inconvenience itself for the sake of someone whose views it finds contemptible.

But it's worth remembering that the First Amendment's free-speech guarantee is not about protecting the expression of unpopular ideas—it's about permitting unpopular, in-

flaming and even thoroughly despicable ideas. Those, after all, are the ones most likely to be suppressed if the majority had its way.

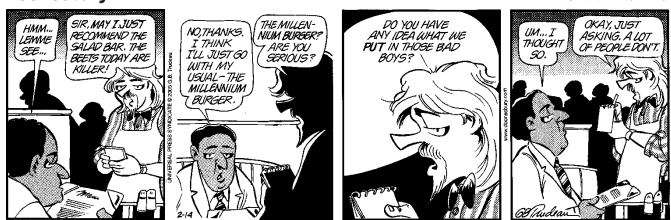
That point apparently escapes some politicians back in Colorado, who are now trying to find the state has been paying the bills of someone with these views. Gov. Bill Owens has urged the University of Colorado to fire Churchill, who already has given up this job as chairman of the ethnic studies department. State Sen. Tom Wiens objected to having "someone on our state payroll who believes" what Churchill does.

But repentant though Churchill's views are, they should not be grounds for firing a university professor. The spirit of academic freedom requires ample space for scholars to entertain and advocate controversial and even outrageous ideas. Unless the professor has failed to fulfill his obligations as a teacher and scholar, he should be retained in his post, regardless of his personal opinions.

The state doesn't have to operate a university, and if it can't punish or reward academics according to the acceptability of their political views.

That is not easy to stomach when the views are as vile as these. But as State Sen. Peter Gronwald, "Democracy and freedom are hard work."

Doonesbury



OPINION

Despite knocks, Bush headed for greatness

The photo on my local newspaper's front page showed the Israeli prime minister and Palestine's new president shaking hands. Not so long before that, a front-page photo showed an Iraqi woman proudly holding up a purple-dabbed finger as a sign that she had voted in a national election.

Jay Ambrose

Consider these photos and the extraordinary events underlying them, throw in a mighty effort to reform a key domestic program and still other initiatives, and you find more than a hint of the direction in which George W. Bush's presidency may be headed: greatness.

I am already putting my hands over my head for protection as the brickbats come my way, the screams of outrage, the allegations or that I am a fool or a knave or both. The Bush haters — those who send me e-mails, certainly, and not just a few professional commentators, leftist academics, Hollywood ninjas and Democratic politicians — see the man as the most incompetent, ignorant and deceitful president of the past century and more. I am suggesting that he could be among the most beneficially significant in the past century or more.

The Bush administration, which had supported Mahmoud Abbas in the extraordinary and historic Palestinian election for president, also helped bring about the summit in Egypt at which Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon agreed to halt

hostilities and reached across a table to grasp each other's hand. Photographers captured the moment that could lead to something lasting — peace, relief of Palestinian misery, diminished Arab anger and enhanced security for Israel.

It won't be done without White House involvement that's already been promised but, if it is done, Bush will have accomplished what Richard Nixon failed to do, what Gerald Ford failed to do, what Jimmy Carter failed to do, what Ronald Reagan failed to do, what an earlier George Bush failed to do and what Bill Clinton failed to do. They all tried.

Israeli-Palestinian peace would be a major step toward transforming the Middle East from a breeding ground of Islamic-fascist terrorism to something that causes to threaten the future of civilization and makes it possible for people to live rich, rewarding lives instead of simply enduring oppression and poverty.

Another major step is the democratization of Iraq. On both left and right, critics have said this ambition is either gross stupidity or an idealism contrived to hide lies about why our military is really, truly in Iraq.

Stupidity, indeed. The Iraqi election was one of the most heartwarming world events I can remember in years. At the risk of death, people voted, and then they danced and then they held aloft those fingers colored to demonstrate they had voted while cameras recorded their pride. It was then impossible to believe Bush wrong when he had said that the call of liberty is universal.

No one, of course, is silly enough to pretend that changing the Middle East is a given or will be easy or that there aren't contrary horrors that could also transpire, but Bush's actions have made it possible that the Middle East could bloom into something



marvelously humane and free.

Bush is aiming at fundamental change domestically, too. Prime example: He is now pushing for reform of Social Security even at the risk of political ruin. This is the same risk that has caused and is causing innumerable politicians to retreat into irresponsibility and falsehood, even while most truly reflective and knowledgeable observers know that if we don't begin to deal soon with the profound consequences of baby boomers growing old, we will have paved the way for the worst sort of social and economic disruption in the decades ahead.

Winning the Cold War may not have been more important than what Bush is seeking in the Middle East, and reforming Social Security matters as much as the enactment of virtually any domestic program in the past quarter of a century. Maybe Bush won't reach his goals but, if he does, it will be hard to dismiss the greatness of this administration, no matter how much the very idea ranks those who cannot stand this determined and able president.

Jay Ambrose, formerly Washington director of editorial policy for Scripps Howard newspapers, is a columnist living in Colorado.

TV programs doom U.S. abstinence-only programs

BY BRONWYN MAYDEN

The Bush administration appears to be throwing good money after bad in funding for abstinence-only programs nationwide.

Studies of the effectiveness of abstinence-only education show that the courses do not appear to decrease teen pregnancy or the risk of sexually transmitted diseases. Yet the government has increased funding for these programs by more than 50 percent since 2001, spending about \$170 million over that time.

Eleven of 13 federally funded abstinence-only programs conducted in communities and schools in 25 states provide abstinence with false and misleading information about reproductive health, a report says.

The report, released in December by Democratic Rep. Henry A. Waxman of California, finds that more than two-thirds of these programs rely on curricula that distort information about the effectiveness of contraceptives, misrepresent the risks of abortion, blur religion and science, treat stereotypes about girls and boys as scientific fact and contain basic scientific errors. Eleven curricula are used in 25 states, including health departments, school districts and hospitals.

While members of Congress and the advocacy community debate the merits of abstinence-only curricula, this debate must be placed within the context of teenagers' lives. While the typical teen may have a class unit in sex education, that's a fraction of time compared with how much teens spend consuming various forms of media.

Recent studies reveal that teens spend an average of six to seven hours a day with some form of media, including TV, radio, the Internet, magazines and CDs. These provide cues of conduct that shape male-female in-

teractions, often without showing negative consequences of sexual activity.

A Rand Corp. study released in September concluded that watching sex on TV predicts and may hasten adolescent sexual initiation. It said there were "substantial associations between the sexual content viewed by teens and advances in their sexual behavior during the subsequent year." In other words, young teens begin to take on the sexual behavior of older teens and, consequently, are inclined to be sexually active earlier.

The bottom line is that teens learn about sexuality from the mass media. Two-thirds of children ages 8 to 18 have a television in their bedrooms, and many have access to cable. Teens who watch three to five hours of television a day witness about 2,000 sex acts per year — including implied intercourse, embracing, kissing and fondling.

So while adults continue to debate the issues of abstinence-only education, our youths are tuning in to TV programs such as "The OC" and "Desperate Housewives" to learn about relationships. Whether it is sexual exploration for younger adolescents or forming romantic attachments for older adolescents, the media are setting the agenda.

Because this is such a broad issue, there must be multiple strategies to deal with sex and the media. What to do:

■ Parents can watch TV with their children to help them interpret what they are seeing as well as limit the amount of time spent watching.

■ Policy-makers can support the Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act of 2004, which greatly increases fines on broadcasters for allowing obscene, indecent and profane language on the air.

■ Policy-makers should urge the Federal Communications Commission to establish content standards to limit the amount of violence in programming.

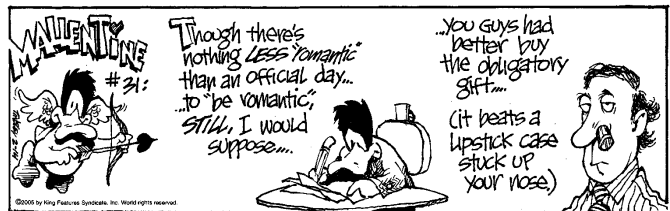
■ Educators need to better understand the media and materials that youths are viewing.

Unfortunately, what's missing from the media's current sexual scripts is anything having to do with the possible negative consequences of sexual activity or ways to prevent negative outcomes, so it is unlikely that protective behavior could be imitated. Content analyses suggest that audiences are most likely to learn that sex is consequence-free, rarely planned and more a matter of lust than love.

Bronwyn Mayden is a community fellow with the Center for Health Disparities Solutions at Morgan State University in Baltimore. This column first appeared in *The Baltimore Sun*.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



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Child locked in cage

MINN. ST. PAUL — A mother and her live-in boyfriend are accused of locking the woman's 11-year-old daughter in a chain-link dog kennel in a warehouse basement.

Deborah L. Cameron and Eric Bare appeared in Ramsey County District Court, each charged with two counts of unreasonable restraint of a child, a gross misdemeanor.

Cameron called St. Paul police Jan. 1 to say she was having problems with her daughter and asked them to remove the girl from their home.

When police arrived, they heard the girl screaming. She told them that Bare locked her in a dog cage, hit her and read her diary. Child protection officials removed the girl.

Driver hits family twice

CA. SUNNYVALE — A Sunnyvale man was arrested on attempted-murder charges after he plowed his car into a family of four on a sidewalk, then returned and struck them again, injuring them all, police said.

A 5-year-old boy, his 18-month-old sister and their parents were being treated at a hospital for a range of injuries.

Police said they are still trying to determine what provoked Ngal Fung Fong, 37, to veer onto the sidewalk with his compact sedan and strike the family that was out for a stroll.

"We can find no relationship between the suspect and the victims," said Sunnyvale Police Capt. Craig Farley.

Witnesses told police they saw Fong drive into the family members and then return to hit them again as bystanders were rendering aid.

Record popcorn sale

PA. GIBSONIA — Conny as it sounds, a Cub Scout has set a national record for selling popcorn.

Ryan Cenik, 10, of the Pittsburgh suburb of Richland Township, sold \$25,006 worth of Trail's End popcorn products, popping the old record in the Scouts' annual popcorn sale by about \$5,000.

Cenik more than doubled his sales with one call to ATM Corp., a company that provides mortgage lending services. The company's vice president heard the scout's pitch and decided the popcorn tins would make perfect gifts for employees. The company bought \$13,500 worth of popcorn.

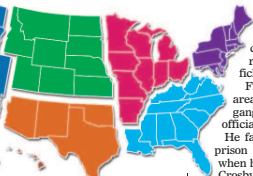
Ryan took the phone away from his ear, looked up and said, "Mom, he wants 450 of the three-way tins," his mother, Colleen Cenik, said. "I got on the extension to make sure there was no misunderstanding."

All told, Cenik sold about 10 tons of popcorn.

Spotlight quiets chatter

ID. ATHOL — Green light. Red light. Lights out.

In an effort to quiet down the lunchroom chatter at Athol Elementary, a spotlight has been mounted that monitors decibel lev-



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

els and signals teachers to turn the lights out when kids get too noisy.

The spotlight is mounted on the lunchroom wall and goes from green to yellow, flashes, and then turns red.

The sound meter can be adjusted to go off at anywhere from 54 decibels to more than 100 decibels. For comparison, noise from a washing machine is about 75 decibels.

The move comes because of the lunchroom's poor acoustics and tile floors. "The sound doesn't have anything to soak into," Principal Connie McGee said.

When the light turns red, the lunchroom stays dark and youngsters have to stay silent until the Talk Light resets and turns green again.

Police officer in gang

GA. ATLANTA — A former police officer has pleaded guilty to a federal civil rights charge accusing him of misusing his authority and participating in a notorious drug gang's activities.

David Alan Freeman, 39, who was once named "officer of the year," admitted that he was a lieutenant in the Diablos gang and misused his police authority to help in the abduction of a rival gang member who was severely beaten, said Patrick Crosby, a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office.

Crosby said Freeman, a nine-year Atlanta police veteran and former student government president at Georgia State Univer-

sity, also admitted taking part in the gang's activities, including crimes such as robbery and drug trafficking.

Freeman grew up in an area where the Diablos gang operated in Atlanta, official said.

He faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine when he is sentenced May 6, Crosby said.

Rolling U-Haul party

SC. ROCK HILL — Police found more than they bargained for when they stopped a U-Haul truck with a burned-out taillight.

Instead of furniture in the back, police on Monday found a rolling keg party with about 20 people drinking whiskey and beer.

Eleven people were charged with underage drinking.

"They all kind of froze and didn't know what to do, I guess," officer Robert Marshall said.

The partygoers told police they rented the truck for someone's 21st birthday party because the bars were closed. The moving party was traveling streets without a particular destination.

The truck's driver was charged with reckless driving because the people in the back could have been injured, police said. Officers asked the partygoers to call for rides and no one was arrested.

Quake rattles Arkansas

AR. CARAWAY — A small earthquake struck portions of northeastern Arkansas on Thursday, rattling windows and nerves but causing no immediate damage.

A preliminary report from the Earthquake Hazards Program of the U.S. Geological Survey said the 8:05 a.m. quake was centered four miles east of Caraway and had a magnitude of 3.9. A quake of magnitude 4 can cause moderate damage.

The quake occurred at a depth of 9.5 miles in the New Madrid seismic zone.

The tremor was felt as far away as Blytheville, 22 miles to the northeast.

Burglars pick mansions

CT. GREENWICH — In this gated world of great riches, wealth is protected behind high stone walls, intercoms, security cameras and warning signs. And still burglars are managing to break into the mansions of Greenwich.

About 15 homes have been burglarized in the past few months in Greenwich, many in the town's so-called back country where celebrities and corporate executives live.

The burglars have taken at least \$750,000 worth of expensive jewelry, fur coats, cash, credit cards and cameras. They have an eye for the finer things, leaving behind inexpensive jewelry.

Authorities suspect the Greenwich break-ins were carried out by the same burglars, and believe they are operating in at least four other states: New York, New Jersey, Virginia and Maryland.

None of the town's famous residents, who include actors Ron Howard and Mel Gibson, have been victimized, police say.



Playing keep-away

Keara Turner, 3, tries to get a basketball from her brother, Khalil Davis, 10, while playing on the courts of Anderson, S.C.



Barnyard turf war

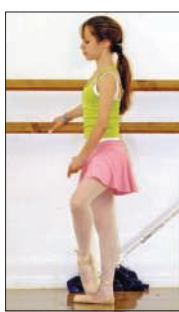
east of Pearl City, Ill.

A farm dog barks at a herd of cattle in a pen on the Baumgartner farm



Snowfall in Kentucky

A light snow covers Main Street in Danville, Ky.



Warming up

Ballet student Krista Freeman does some warm-up exercises during her Pointe 2 class at the Academy of Ballet in Alamogordo, N.M.



Joe, Kaly and Brad Bousquet slide in South Platt Park in Plattsburgh, N.Y.

Snow day creates more time for play



Solemn sunrise

The rising sun lights up the sky behind the soldiers of a World War II Memorial on a cold, quiet morning at Capitol Lake in Pierre, S.D.



Fun on the ice

Whitefish Lake in Whitefish, Mont.

Jonas Magstadt, 15, left, keeps the puck away from 15-year-old Tyler Gardner, center, and 16-year-old Kris Archer, right, while playing ice hockey on Whitefish Lake in Whitefish, Mont.

Colors of crime

MT LIVINGSTON — Sheriff Clark Carpenter says identifying inmates should be a black and white matter, so he's color-coordinating uniforms based on crime.

The Park County Detention Center is outfitting inmates charged with felonies in black and white prison stripe uniforms.

Carpenter said he got the idea on a trip to Canada, when he saw a work crew on the side of the highway in black and white striped clothing.

"It left no question in my mind who those guys were and what they're doing," Carpenter said.

For years, Park County inmates have worn solid orange uniforms, which can be identical to work clothes worn by some road crews.

Tough baby

ME LEE — Nicholas Chandonait is only 5 weeks old, but has endured five surgeries. And there are more on the way.

Nicholas was born Jan. 3 with a complex congenital heart defect and a collapsed diaphragm. During one procedure at Maine Medical Center in Portland, his heart stopped beating and he was dead for one minute, said his mother, Amy Chandonait, 26, of Lee.

Nicholas is able to breathe on his own in the hospital's pediatric intensive care unit, but he must be fed through a feeding tube in his nose, his mother said. A big scar runs across his breastbone. He has had several blood transfusions, has a shunt in his heart and is on several medications.

Yet Chandonait sees signs of strength in Nicholas, who weighs 6 pounds, 3 ounces, and has a shock of thick, dark hair.

"He is actually doing really well now, considering how many surgeries he has had," Chandonait said. "For what he has been through, he looks wonderful."

Underwater discovery

CA SANTA BARBARA — Scientists have discovered a new species of coral off the southern California coast that flames like a pink and white Christmas tree, as well as a new species of worm that lives off it.

Milton Love, a marine biologist at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and colleagues from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration made the discoveries in 2002 while making fish surveys hundreds of feet below the Channel Islands.

A Tennessee lab determined the new species is a type of black coral — the color it turns when it dies.

Underwater photog dies

HI HONOLULU — A well-known underwater photographer drowned Wednesday while taking surf pictures at Banzai Pipeline.

Jon Mozo, 33, was swimming and taking photos of surfers under a clear afternoon sky. The sequence of events leading to his death are unclear. Mozo had head injuries and no pulse after he was pulled from the water by an off-duty lifeguard and others, Fire Capt. Kenison Tejada said. He was pronounced dead at Kahuiku Hospital.

The surf at Pipeline was not especially big, but the swell was off of the west, which indicates an extremely strong current, said fellow surf photographer Bernie Baker.

In January 1993, a shark attacked Mozo while he was surfing near Maalekahana. Mozo received 30 stitches on each foot to close the gashes from the attack.

Surgical mishap

NC WILMINGTON — A doctor may have performed the wrong type of gastric bypass surgery on more than 50 patients at a Wilmington hospital, officials said. Dr. Steven E. Olchowski performed the surgeries between December 2000 and the spring of 2002 at New Hanover Regional Medical Center, which is facing eight malpractice lawsuits stemming from the weight-loss operations.

The lawsuits claim Olchowski told patients they would perform a gastric bypass surgery known as Roux-en-Y, which usually is covered by health insurance. According to the lawsuits, he performed minigastric bypass, which usually is not covered. The difference between the surgeries is how the stomach and intestines are attached. Attorneys for six of the patients said their clients had serious complications such as stomach ulcers and required a second surgery to convert the bypass into a Roux-en-Y.

Theater revitalization

SD LEAD — A historical society has reached a deal to buy an opera house complex that was built by a mining company more than 90 years ago but nearly destroyed in a 1984 fire.

The Historic Homestead Opera House Society will buy the theater and a retail area from Jerikodi Inc., which had been working with the society on the theater renovations, society President Jacques Fuller said.

The society, created in 1997 to develop the restoration plan and organize programming at the theater, decided it needed to own the building itself to make fund-raising easier.

Tattle-totallers

RI HANOVER — Police are turning to a telephone tip line to try to stop teen drinking.

The idea is to allow people to leave anonymous tips about underage drinking parties.

"It's not that the main intent is getting people busted," said Hanover Community Counselor Dena Romero. "The most important thing is keeping people safe."

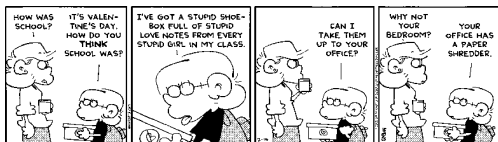
Callers who dial (603) 643-PARTY can leave a message, without having to give their name. "There's no caller ID, so people can call and it truly can be anonymous," said Police Chief Nick Giaccone.

The voice-mail system pages a dispatcher, who listens to the message. If the message is about an upcoming party at a Hanover home, a police officer will call the parents or homeowner and ask if they were aware of the party, Giaccone said. The officer also will inform them about underage drinking laws.

If police believe that the party is still going to happen, they will patrol the area, Giaccone said.

Stories and photos from wire services

Forkrot



B.C.



Baby Bites



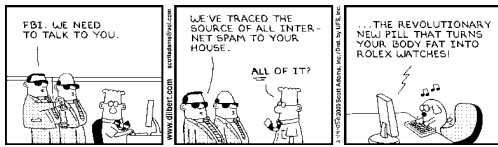
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



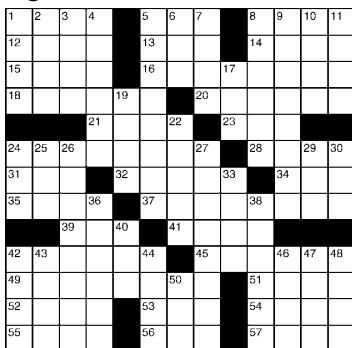
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Put an end to
5 Inaccurate
8 Portent
12 Protuberance
13 Shuffleboard stick
14 Ashen
15 Fleet from far away?
16 Discussion in writing
18 Chest of drawers
20 Interlaced
21 Waitstaff's due
23 — Angles
24 Foot-operated levers
28 Appellation
31 "Eureka!"
32 Tending to leak slowly
34 Charged bit
35 Rocky peaks
37 Molasses-like syrups
39 Author Wallace
41 Poet Teasdale
42 In the same place (Lat.)
45 Works dought
49 X marks its spot
51 "Begone!"
52 Bridge position
53 Pitch

Down

- 54 Bocelli solo
55 Apportion
56 Type squares
57 Whatever's left
19 Lends a hand
22 Prognosticators
24 Tilt for —
25 Greek consonant
26 First in time
27 Rock band's gear
29 Larry's pal
30 Halves of
56-Across
33 Tall tale
36 Tranquillizer
38 Roman emperor
40 Director Craven
42 Particular
43 Highland hillside
44 Speechless
46 Farm fraction
47 Lecturer's place
48 Pronto, in the OR
50 Aries
17 Puncturing tool

Answer to Previous Puzzle



2-14 CRYPTOQUIP

NJ S LPBCPU ASI S HWONVI
SC XSOLSHNOH, EW BPVQL
XW BSQQWL "CEW ANTSUL
PJ HSVTW."

Saturday's Cryptquip: GRILLS AND STEAM IRONS ARE FLYING OFF THE SHELVES. THEY'RE DEFINITELY HOT ITEMS.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: H equals G

Messages of love for troops abroad

Dear Readers: Because today is Valentine's Day, I thought you might enjoy reading some of the 5 million messages of love and support sent to our men and women in the military during the Christmas holidays via OperationDearAbby.net. Read on:

From Rhonnie in Texas: I know things must be hard for you, being far from home and missing the friends and family you depend on for comfort. I know that when you signed on, you knew you could end up in an unfriendly place and would be gone for long periods of time. You know this, yet you did it anyway. That selfless act says much of your character, your strength and your courage.

You're probably homesick, as are your family and friends for you. You are loved and appreciated by more than only your friends and family. You have a

strong nation behind you that wishes you home soon, whether you be in the heat of the desert or the cold and snow.

From Sharon in Sanford, Minn.:

Thank you for your service to our country. I pray that everywhere you go, and in everything you confront, that you will be given a special wisdom. It is my heart's desire that truth and freedom be strengthened, and flourish, and all error manifested be disolved.

From Robyn G., The Woodlands, Texas:

Thank you for all of your sacrifices and hardships. I want everyone over there fighting the good fight to know that America is thankful, even if we don't write all the time or send packages. We are here for you and will be here for you when you come

home.

From Louise in Lewisville, Ohio:

You may find it hard to understand that someone you don't even know is thinking about you. I am a mother of three and was an Army wife. You all are near and dear to my heart. Know that someone is praying that you come home safe and sound, that someone needs you to know you are not forgotten.

From Becky in Edwardsville, Ill.:

Thank you for volunteering, and thank you for hanging in there during the tough times. There's no doubt we have the best sailors, soldiers, airmen, Marines and National Guard in the world, and you make us very proud.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can email to Abby on the Internet at: <http://www.ueexpress.com/dearabby>
Universal Press Syndicate

Dear Abby



Heartbreak will subside eventually

Dear Annie: I am 22 years old and was engaged to "Marty" for three years. I thought everything was going great. I always gave him everything he wanted. If he needed groceries, I would buy them. If he needed money, I always gave it to him. There was nothing in this world I wouldn't do for Marty.

Last month, Marty decided I had nothing to offer him and he ended our relationship. I feel like I lost such a huge part of my life, and now that it's over, all that matters to me is keeping my friendship with him.

I recently found out there is a new girl in Marty's life. The news that he has someone else so soon after our breakup has ripped me apart. I'm not trying to ruin his new relationship, but how can I deal with such heartbreak and still maintain our friendship?

— Sad and Lonely in Colorado
Dear Sad: For the moment,

Annie's Mailbox



you can't. You need a breather from Marty so you can put the breakup in perspective. You deserve to be in a healthy relationship where you don't have to be a doormat in order to gain someone's love. Marty did not appreciate your constant need to please him. Such effort can be suffocating. Do not

contact Marty. Go out with friends, get involved in fun activities, and concentrate on ways to be good to yourself. If you need counseling, get it.

Dear Annie: My 33-year-old daughter, "Lily," is irresponsible when it comes to paying her bills. She has a full-time job and is divorced with two teenage children.

When Lily was married, she and her husband lied about the reasons why they could not pay rent, borrowed money that they never paid back and also moved

in with us. Each time they screwed up, we bailed them out. My wife and I finally got tired of all the lies and threw them out of the house.

Now that Lily is divorced, she is back in our home and on the same destructive path. There are two grandchildren involved. What's a parent to do?

Desperate
Dear Desperate: It's hard to let your child make her own mistakes, sink or swim. Lily is 33 years old and needs to learn about fiscal responsibility. As long as she knows you will pay her way, she will let you. Teach her how to keep a budget, but don't bail her out. Show her how to start saving so she can live independently. If necessary, offer to keep the kids while she learns how to fend for herself.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annie@mailbox.com, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VALIE

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VAROS

THIBLE

THINGK

Ans: IT TO

Saturday's

Jumbles: ROUSE FRAUD PELVIS SALOON

Answer: Why the sweet shop went out of business — SALES "SOURD"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron

Wow! A card, flowers, candy, and dinner



MANY WILL DO THIS ON VALENTINE'S DAY.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Family Circus



2-14

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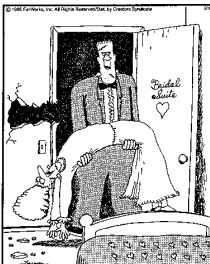
"Mommy! Make PJ stop bein' helpful!"



Dennis the Menace



© Gary Larson The Far Side

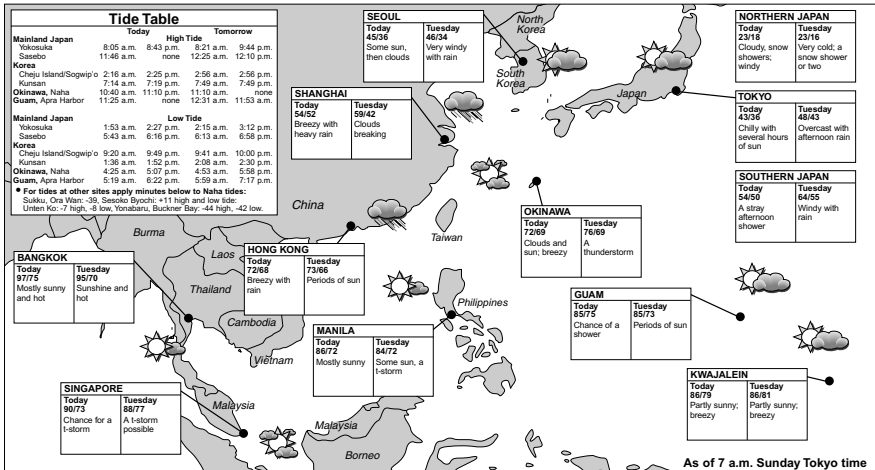


Non Sequitur



The Pacific Forecast

AccuWeather.com

Forecasts and graphics, provided
by AccuWeather.com ©2005

Extended Forecasts

TOKYO
Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 55, low 46.
Thursday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 50, low 37.

KADENA
Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 72, low 62.
Thursday: Rain, high 73, low 67.

SEoul
Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 37, low 30.
Thursday: Partly sunny, high 34, low 23.

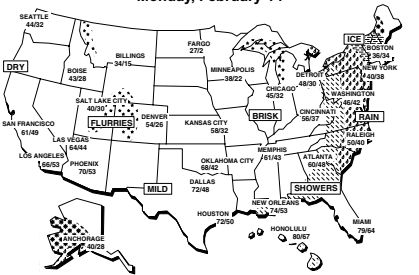
MANILA
Wednesday: Mostly sunny, high 84, low 70.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, high 84, low 70.

HAGATNA
Wednesday: Showers, high 85, low 73.
Thursday: Partly sunny, high 87, low 75.

Saturday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	52/36	Los Angeles	65/53
Amarillo	57/42	Little Rock	57/50
Anchorage	14/5	Louisville	60/40
Asheville	60/34	Miami	71/50
Baltimore	48/26	Milwaukee	46/28
Birmingham	67/47	Nashville	67/45
Bismarck	50/26	New York	42/28
Boise	44/32	Omaha	46/36
Boston	41/24	Orlando	69/44
Brownsville	78/64	Philadelphia	45/28
Buffalo	34/21	Phoenix	63/51
Burlington	34/15	Pittsburgh	43/25
Charleston, SC	64/42	Portland, OR	50/38
Charlotte	59/36	Portland, ME	35/20
Cleveland	42/26	Salt Lake City	41/30
Columbus, OH	47/30	St. Louis	59/45
Duluth	42/21	San Antonio	63/56
El Paso	62/46	San Diego	61/56
Hartford	44/23	San Juan	82/70
Helena	45/26	Tampa	67/45
Indianapolis	52/36	Tulsa	55/50
Jacksonville	69/49	Washington, DC	50/32
Kansas City	53/44	Wichita	56/45

Monday, February 14



U.S. Extended Forecast

A storm located over the Great Lakes will bring rain to much of the East on Monday. The air may be cold enough in parts of the Northeast and southern New England for the precipitation to be in the form of ice or snow. Much of the nation will be dry on Tuesday as high pressure stretches from Texas eastward into the mid-Atlantic. A storm will near the West Coast, bringing California some rain. By Wednesday, some light rain and mountain snow will continue to persist. A weak disturbance may bring some flurries and snow showers to the higher elevations of the mid-Atlantic northward into New England.

Monday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	97/75	Wakunai	50/37
Beijing	45/25	Kadena AB	72/69
Camp Casey	46/28	Kunsan AB	45/34
Christchurch	64/48	Kwajalein	86/79
Diego Garcia	84/79	Manila	86/72
Hagatna	85/75	Misawa AB	28/14
Hanoi	77/66	Osan	45/28
Hong Kong	72/68	Perth	90/68
Honolulu	80/67	Pusan	46/36
		Sapporo	23/18
		Seoul	54/36
		Shanghai	54/52
		Singapore	90/73
		Sydney	80/64
		Tagu	48/30
		Taipei	73/63
		Tokyo	43/36

Monday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	97/75	Katol	41/26
Buenos Aires	59/47	Kiev	37/33
Cairo	70/58	Kuwait	63/42
Cancun	55/37	London	41/32
Cape Town	86/70	Madrid	49/36
Geneva	58/39	Mexico City	72/44
Berlin	29/22	Montreal	30/23
Bermuda	62/52	Mogadishu	86/73
Brussels	42/28	Moscow	22/15
		Nairobi	83/51
		New Delhi	72/48
		Oslo	26/17
		Paris	43/34
		Rio de Janeiro	79/67
		Rome	50/31
		St. Petersburg	11/7
		Stockholm	32/23
		Warsaw	35/20



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CAMP KINSEY | 637-3333

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Models 2 cups, 4 cup, 6 cup, 8 cup, 10 cup, 12 cup, 14 cup, 16 cup, 18 cup, 20 cup, 22 cup, 24 cup, 26 cup, 28 cup, 30 cup, 32 cup, 34 cup, 36 cup, 38 cup, 40 cup, 42 cup, 44 cup, 46 cup, 48 cup, 50 cup, 52 cup, 54 cup, 56 cup, 58 cup, 60 cup, 62 cup, 64 cup, 66 cup, 68 cup, 70 cup, 72 cup, 74 cup, 76 cup, 78 cup, 80 cup, 82 cup, 84 cup, 86 cup, 88 cup, 90 cup, 92 cup, 94 cup, 96 cup, 98 cup, 100 cup, 102 cup, 104 cup, 106 cup, 108 cup, 110 cup, 112 cup, 114 cup, 116 cup, 118 cup, 120 cup, 122 cup, 124 cup, 126 cup, 128 cup, 130 cup, 132 cup, 134 cup, 136 cup, 138 cup, 140 cup, 142 cup, 144 cup, 146 cup, 148 cup, 150 cup, 152 cup, 154 cup, 156 cup, 158 cup, 160 cup, 162 cup, 164 cup, 166 cup, 168 cup, 170 cup, 172 cup, 174 cup, 176 cup, 178 cup, 180 cup, 182 cup, 184 cup, 186 cup, 188 cup, 190 cup, 192 cup, 194 cup, 196 cup, 198 cup, 200 cup, 202 cup, 204 cup, 206 cup, 208 cup, 210 cup, 212 cup, 214 cup, 216 cup, 218 cup, 220 cup, 222 cup, 224 cup, 226 cup, 228 cup, 230 cup, 232 cup, 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McHale fires Saunders, takes over Timberwolves

BY JON KRAWCZYNSKI
The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Minnesota Timberwolves coach Flip Saunders was fired Saturday and replaced by vice president of basketball operations Kevin McHale.

Saunders, who had the second-longest tenure among NBA coaches, will be reassigned within the organization, the team said.

McHale, who will coach the Timberwolves for the rest of the season, said he called Saunders on Saturday morning to break the news.

"We talked this morning, and it was very, very hard," McHale said. "We've known each other for a long time, but our last 32 games were 12-20, and just not playing at a level that's acceptable, energy-wise."

"Maybe a new voice will help," McHale said. "I'm going to do my best to get these guys competing at a higher level."

Minnesota is 25-26 this season, a disappointment after last season's franchise-best 58-24 mark. Spurred on by Kevin Garnett's MVP year, the Wolves reached the Western Conference finals for the first time, creating optimism heading into this season.

Flip Saunders, above, who was 411-325 as coach of the Minnesota Timberwolves, was fired Saturday and replaced by vice president of basketball operations and longtime friend Kevin McHale.

It hasn't been as easy. Saunders has used 12 different starting lineups this season and bewildered his players at times with his substitution patterns, all in an effort to become successful again.

"Our effort level is just not there, and I said, 'Glen, it's on me,' and he said, 'Do something about it,'" McHale said, referring to owner Glen Taylor.

In more than nine seasons, Saunders posted a 411-326 record. He was hired on Dec. 18, 1995, taking over for Bill Blair. Last year, Saunders became the eighth person in NBA history to have coached his first 700 games with the same organization.

Only Jerry Sloan, who has coached the Utah Jazz since 1988, had a longer tenure than Saunders among current NBA coaches.

McHale has been with Minnesota since 1993, serving as a special assistant to the coaching staff, broadcast analyst, and assistant general manager before becoming vice president of basketball operations in May 1995.

Saunders' firing is the fifth coaching change in the NBA this season.

Raich wins slalom as worlds wind up

BY ANDREW DAMPF
The Associated Press

BORMIO, Italy — Austria's Benjamin Raich put together two steady runs and won the slalom race Saturday for his fourth medal of the Alpine World Ski Championships, moving ahead of Bode Miller on the medals table.

Raich also won gold in last week's combined race, silver in the giant slalom and even claimed a surprise bronze in the super-G.

Miller straddled a gate midway through his second run and fell, and did not finish. In the two races Miller did complete during the championships, the American won gold in the super-G and downhill.

Saturday's race concluded the individual portion of the championships. Only Sunday's team event, in which Raich and Miller were expected to participate, remained.

"It was a great day, a good slalom, perfect," said Raich, who is second to Miller in this season's overall World Cup standings.

"This is crazy, I can't believe it."

Raich has been suffering from the same flu that has affected several other skiers here.

"I'm too weak to properly enjoy it," he said. "This victory is giving me my strength back, though."

Leading after the first leg, Raich covered the Stelvio course in a two-run combined time of 1 minute, 41.34 seconds.

Fellow Austrian Rainer Schoenfelder took the silver medal, finishing 0.24 seconds behind.

Local favorite Giorgio Rocca of Italy was third, 0.74 back, for his second medal here after also taking bronze in the combined.

Raich, who leads this season's World Cup slalom ranks, set up his victory with a superb first run.

"Having a low bib number helped me," Raich said of the first leg, "because the slope deteriorated almost immediately in certain stretches."

Raich's fellow Austrian, Manfred Pranger, second after the first run, fell just a few gates into his second leg, opening the way for Raich to cruise to victory.

Raich won the opening slalom this season in Beaver Creek, Colo., on Dec. 5 and was the bronze medalist in the event in the 2002 Olympics. He finished fourth in the slalom in the 2003 worlds and won silver in the 2001 edition.

Several top skiers did not finish their first runs Saturday, including defending world champion Ivica Kostelic of Croatia, who missed a gate near the end of his leg.

FBI looking into alleged e-mail threats to Ray Lewis

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — The FBI is investigating two e-mails that allegedly threatened Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis, a federal law enforcement spokesman said Saturday.

The e-mails were traced to Akron, Ohio, and agents executed a search warrant there on Wednesday, said Special Agent Robert Hawk, a spokesman for the FBI's Cleveland office.

On Saturday, The (Baltimore) Sun, citing an anonymous official with knowledge of the case, reported that the person suspected of sending the e-mail is believed to be related to one of two men killed in a fight in 2000. Lewis was charged with murder along with two other men after the fight. Charges against Lewis were subsequently dropped and he pleaded guilty to misdemeanor obstruction of justice charges. He was sentenced to a year of probation.

Hawk would not comment on the identity of the person who was believed to have sent the e-mails. No arrests have been made, although Hawk said authorities were focusing their investigation on a specific person.

The e-mails were sent to the Ray Lewis Foundation, a Baltimore-based charity organization sponsored by Lewis to help children and families in need.

"Ray is aware of the threat — as are the Ravens — and so are the proper authorities and they are pursuing it," Ravens spokesman Kevin Byrne said.

Mariners' Sexson cited for DUI

VANCOUVER, Wash. — New Seattle Mariners first baseman Richie Sexson was cited for drunken driving last weekend after being stopped for speeding.

Sexson, who signed a \$50 million, four-year, contract with Seattle in December, was stopped Feb. 5 near his Clark County home.

Sports briefs

Linda Dorezette, a spokeswoman for Sexson, confirmed late Friday that he was stopped for speeding and was later "charged with driving under the influence."

Dorezette said in a statement that Sexson was not impaired "based on the two Breathalyzer tests he later took."

Sexson entered a plea of not guilty on Wednesday, according to court records. Clark County sheriff's Deputy Gregory Chaney said he initially stopped Sexson for speeding, according to two television reports.

The deputy said in his report that he suspected Sexson was intoxicated after noticing a "strong odor of intoxicants emitting from the driver's window" and seeing an open six-pack of beer bottles in the back seat.

According to the report, Sexson refused to take a portable breath test at the scene and then failed a series of field sobriety tests. An hour later, Sexson took two breath tests at the sheriff's office, both times registering below Washington's legal intoxication threshold.

The sheriff's office said in a statement late Friday that Sexson submitted two breath samples and was then cited for DUI, but the statement did not provide the results of those breath tests.

"It is our understanding Richie was originally stopped for driving over the speed limit," Mariners spokesman Kevin LeVelly said, adding that the team was told Sexson "took and passed two Breathalyzer tests."

A career 271 hitter with 200 home runs, the 30-year-old Sexson injured his left shoulder last season with Arizona and didn't play after May, batting .233 with nine homers and 23 RBIs.

Orioles, Julio reach \$2.5M deal

BALTIMORE — Reliever Jorge Julio agreed to terms on a \$2.5 million, one-year contract with the Baltimore Orioles on Saturday, avoiding salary arbitration.

Julio had 22 saves in 26 chances last season, but lost his job as closer during a rough

stretch in September. He finished 2-5 with a 4.57 ERA in 65 games.

The right-hander allowed 13 runs in his last 16 outings, allowing five homers over 15 innings. B.J. Ryan took over as the stopper, although Julio hopes to compete for the job in spring training.

He made \$385,000 last year, was eligible for arbitration for the first time.

Referee in German soccer scandal charged with fraud

BERLIN — The referee who took bribes to fix German soccer games was arrested and charged with fraud Saturday, and investigators said more people and matches could be involved than previously thought.

Robert Hoyzer was charged with eight counts of fraud, prosecutors said. The 25-year-old has admitted rigging four games in return for \$85,000 from a gambling syndicate led by three Croatian brothers, who have been arrested. He tried to manipulate two other games without success, and in one game his help wasn't needed.

Investigators said Hoyzer may not have told them about other matches rigged before 2004. They added he was also arrested because he is considered a flight risk.

Hoyzer has implicated others, and Berlin prosecutors are investigating 25 people, including three other referees and 14 players, on suspicion of fixing at least 10 games, mostly in the lower divisions.

Agassi upset; Roddick advances in SAP

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Seventh-seeded Jürgen Melzer upset No. 2 Andre Agassi 6-3, 6-1 in the quarterfinals of the SAP Open.

Top-seeded Andy Roddick dropped the first set to Thomas Enqvist but recovered to advance with a 3-6, 7-6 (6), 7-5 victory.

Roddick will next face third-seeded Tommy Haas, who beat No. 8 Marcin Mielner next faces Cyril Saulnier in the other semifinal match. Saulnier beat No. 4 Vincent Spadea.

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Basketball teams get final tuneups for Far East

Stars and Stripes

Folks used to seeing familiar faces playing for their favorite high school basketball teams might have noted a slight change of pace this weekend.

Some coaches held out their starters, some to avoid the risk of injury, others to try different lineup combinations. Some sought the best possible chemistry. More wanted to see how subs could handle clutch situations.

All that was part of an effort over the weekend by Department of Defense Dependents Schools basketball coaches from Misawa to Okinawa to determine their best lineups for next week's Far East tournaments.

"Right now, we're carrying 12 players and we can only take 10" to the Girls Class AA Tournament at Seoul American, coach Ken Hudson said after his Kadena Panthers left 68-67 to Ioman, a Japanese team, in Okinawa-American League play Friday at the Panther Pit.

His team probably could have won the game, Hudson said, if he'd stuck with just his starting lineup and a couple of subs. But this game was about his last-line players proving themselves.

"We had to give up a little something and give those others a chance to make the traveling squad," Hudson said. "And we still made a pretty good run at it." Hudson's boys counterpart, Robert Bliss, hoped to see how well his Panthers could manage without star junior Zaire Jackson, scoring in the 30s and rebounding in the 20s all season, for much of the game.

Kadena had 26 points and 12 rebounds, but in only 18 minutes, as Kadena rallied from a 13-point deficit to defeat Ioman 83-73.

"It was happy the way the team played without him in the third quarter," in which Kadena outscored the Raging Billows 23-15. "That will be important (at Far

Prep roundup

East). Somebody needs to take the pressure off of him. We need more consistency."

The Boys Class AA tournament is Feb. 21-26, as are the girls, with Kadena and Kubasaki co-hosting on Okinawa.

Coach Bob Driggs of defending Girls Class AA champion Kubasaki said he'd like to have two extra players, since the round-robin schedule has some teams playing three games in a day.

"We just have to get healthy," Driggs said of a team he calls "a bit bruised." It would be nice if we could carry 12 on the roster."

His girls beat Oroku 87-73 on Friday, while Kubasaki's boys trounced Gushikawa 96-71. Driggs' boys coach Chris Sullivan also fears injuries, given Kubasaki's home clash next Friday with Kadena — the final tuneup for both teams heading into Far East.

"Like any coach, I'm nervous about injuries," he said. "We hope that we're peaking and playing better as the weeks progress. We hope we're playing at our best two weeks from now."

The ordeal experienced this weekend by the Japan League-leading Yokota girls is what Ric Cabral hopes will prepare his Panthers for Class AA. They traveled 800 miles by bus to and from Misawa Air Base and played four games in a 20-hour stretch, winning all four.

"That's what's going to happen at Far East," Cabral said. His Panthers opened by downing Matthew C. Perry 53-28, a Class AA team using mostly subs and a handful of JV players.

Then came three tough contests, 63-53 and 69-63 victories over host Robert D. Edgren and a 66-57 win over the Misawa Jets base team. Those two squads showed a variety of defensive looks that "rattled" the Panthers



DAVE ORNDORF/Stars and Stripes

Kadena forward Patty Adkins (6) reaches for a rebound over Ioman's basket Tokumura during Friday's Okinawa-American League girls basketball game at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa. Ioman won 68-67.

initially before they regained composure and exhibited solid execution, Cabral said.

Hampering the development and preparation for Korea teams was an unprecedented two-week break in the Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference due to the Lunar New Year.

So Taegu American's girls team, preparing for the Girls Class AA tournament Feb. 21-25 in Pusan, South Korea, were grateful for the chance to play the

Osan Defenders of the Korea Traveling League post-level circuit. Osan beat Taegu 61-51.

"Overall, the girls played well, but still made a lot of mistakes," coach Michelle Chandler said. "Hopefully we can pull it together" for the KAATC tournament Feb. 18-19 and Class AA.

One Class A team that enjoyed a confidence boost was E.J. King, which wrapped up a 14-1 season on Saturday by edging Zama American 54-52 — the "Cobras" first victory over a Class AA team this season.

"This win will give us an extra boost of confidence as we head into Far East next week," Cobras coach Bridget Vertin said.

St. Mary's wraps up perfect season: Tokyo's St. Mary's International Titans can't participate in the Far East High School Wrestling Tournament later this week at Yokota Air Base, Japan, but they ran away with the Kanto Plain Association of Secondary Schools Tournament title, capturing six individual golds at their home gym — and impressing their DODDS opposition.

"They showed their stuff," said Zama American coach Ian Harlow of a Titans team that won all five of its Kanto Plain dual meets and all four tournaments it entered this season, including last weekend's Nile C. Kinnick Invitational "Beast of the Far East."

"It was their house, they have a great group and they wanted to give their seniors and (retiring coach Jon Rhodes) a good send-off. They're a tough team," Harlow said.

In an upset, St. Mary's Sonny Libero (158) took down Kinnick's Yamato Cibulka, who'd beaten Libero four times this season.

"I voted for him (Libero) as Outstanding Wrestler because of it," Kinnick coach Robby Rheinhart said. St. Mary's Mark Striegl (141) took the honor instead.

St. Mary's scored 95 points, followed by American School in Japan 84. Kinnick had 49 each, Yokota placed fourth (46), followed by Zama (36) and Christian Academy in Japan (24).

Two boys wrestlers won individual gold, Jeremiah Saffold (101) and Zach Dopsal (180). Kinnick's Joey Wood (168) and Zama's David Burnett (215) each repeated their tournament titles of a year ago.

St. Mary's and other international schools are no longer eligible for the DODDS Far East, as ruled by the DODDS-Pacific Far East Activities Council in September.

Suns can't get past SuperSons in battle of West's best

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — The Seattle SuperSonics are reminding everyone that they're a force in the West, too.

One night after beating Sacramento at home, the Sonics went to Phoenix and knocked out the Suns 113-105 on Friday night.

Ray Allen climbed out of an awful shooting night with 14 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter and Seattle had seven players in double figures in the shutdown of division leaders.

Rashard Lewis scored 23 points, going 4-for-7 from three-point range, and Antonio Daniels had 20 in the Sonics' fifth win in a row.

Vladimir Radmanovic added 13, Jerome James and Luke Ridnour had 12 apiece, and Reggie Evans had 10 points and 11 rebounds.

Seattle improved to 9-2 against the top six teams in the NBA.

Amare Stoudemire scored 32



Roundup

points, and Steve Nash had 25 points and 14 assists for the Suns, who lost for the second time in five games but only the 12th time all season. Quentin Richardson added 20 points — going 6-for-13 from three-point range — and Shawn Marion 14 points and 10 rebounds.

Wizards 94, Clippers 91: Gilbert Arenas scored 14 of his 35 points in the fourth quarter, and Antawn Jamison hit a big three-pointer in the final minute, leading host Washington.

Arenas reached the 30-point mark for the ninth time in 14 games in the final period as the Wizards held firm in a tight finish to sweep their four-game home-stand. Jamison then all but set-

tled the matter with a three-pointer that broke a 90-90 tie with 45 seconds remaining.

Rockets 91, Pacers 83: At Indianapolis, Bobura scored 17 points and Houston won its sixth straight game, holding Indiana to a point in the final 7 minutes.

Heat 97, Bobcats 87: Shaquille O'Neal had 32 points and 12 rebounds to lead visiting Miami to its fifth straight victory and ninth in 10 games.

76ers 106, Raptors 91: At Toronto, Allen Iverson had 30 points and eight assists to help Philadelphia end a two-game losing streak.

Kenny Thomas added 21 points and eight rebounds, and rookie Andre Iguodala had 16 points and eight rebounds. Jalen Rose had 23 points for the Raptors.

Spurs 101, Nets 91: Tony Parker scored 17 of his 27 points in the fourth quarter, and visiting San Antonio took over after Bruce

Bowen got New Jersey's Vince Carter so angry that he picked up a second technical with 9:45 to go.

Carter, who scored 43 points on 14-for-24 shooting, became so enraged after tangling legs with Bowen after missing a jumper that he screamed at the Spurs' forward and walked menacingly toward him with 9:45 left.

Celtics 111, Knicks 94: At Boston, Ricky Davis scored 25 points, Paul Pierce had 17, and Raef LaFrentz added 15 points and 14 rebounds to help Atlantic Division-leading Boston (26-25) move above .500 for the first time since Nov. 12.

Nuggets 106, Cavaliers 101: Little Earl Boykins scored 18 of his 20 points in the second half for visiting Denver to overshadow another Carmelo Anthony-LeBron James matchup.

Boykins, the Nuggets' pesky 5-foot-5 guard, helped the Nuggets overcame a 35-point performance from James. Last season,

Boykins, who twice played with Cleveland, scored 18 points — all in the second half — as the Nuggets spoiled James' home debut as a pro.

Grizzlies 88, Trail Blazers 82: Stromile Swingle scored 23 points, and Mike Miller added 22 for host Memphis in its third straight victory and sixth in seven games.

Hornets 111, Warriors 108: At New Orleans, Rodney Rogers scored 20 points, and Benoit Nabachny hit 19, leading New Orleans to its 10th victory in 50 games this season.

Jazz 100, Timberwolves 82: At Salt Lake City, Carlos Boozer answered criticism from Utah owner Larry Miller with 21 points and 11 rebounds, and Andrei Kirilenko had 20 points and 10 rebounds.

Boozer, whose toughness was questioned by Miller earlier in the week, had his 22nd double-double of the season but first in more than two weeks.

Show me Tigers

Missouri upsets Sooners to end 5-game skid; Top-ranked Illinois wins 25th straight game

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Thomas Gardner scored 11 of his 18 points in the final 2 minutes of regulation and in overtime, helping Missouri end a five-game losing streak with a 66-65 victory over No. 16 Oklahoma on Saturday.

Kevin Young's layup with 1:17 left was the go-ahead basket for the Tigers (11-13, 3-7 Big 12), who twice rallied from double-digit deficits in the second half. Missouri won despite having only one of six free throws in overtime, but by Linas Kleiza for a three-point lead with 16 seconds to go.

Gardner hit four of his last five shots, three from three-point range, down the stretch. And Missouri had perhaps its best defensive effort, swarming shooters in the second half, and outrebounding Oklahoma 35-30 after the Sooners had a nine-rebound advantage in the first half.

Missouri ended a recent trend of second-half swoons. In the previous three games, the Tigers had been outscored 146-87 after halftime.

Lawrence McKenzie's three-point attempt from the corner just missed with 2 seconds to go for Oklahoma (17-6, 6-4). The Sooners' only other shot in the final minute was a long three-pointer off the backboard by Drew Lawder after the shot clock buzzed for 39 seconds to go.

Kleiza had 18 points and 13 rebounds for Missouri, which won for only the second time in 10 games overall. Coach Quin Snyder improved his record against the Sooners to 3-8.

No. 1 Illinois 70, Wisconsin 59: At Champaign, Ill., Luther Head scored 26 points and De Brown hit two three-pointers down the stretch as Illinois (25-0, 11-0 Big Ten) shook off Wisconsin (14-6, 7-4 Big Ten).

The Illini tied a school record with their 25th consecutive victory and won their 19th straight at home before a record Assembly Hall crowd of 16,865.

Brown, who played despite foul trouble most of the game, hit the first big three-pointer with 3:10 to go to end a 6-2 run by the Badgers and give Illinois a 57-49 lead. He hit the second with 1:43 left to give the Illini an insurmountable 62-51 lead.

Alando Tucker scored 24 for Wisconsin.

No. 3 Kansas 89, Colorado 60: At Lawrence, Kan., Wayne Simien had 25 points and 12 rebounds and triggered a 34-11 second-half surge with a couple of baskets as Kansas (20-1, 10-0 Big 12) reached 20th victories for the 16th straight season.

Kansas has won 31 of the last 32 against Col-

orado, a streak marred only by a one-point loss at Boulder, Colo., in 2003.

No. 5 Kentucky 60, Georgia 51: At Lexington, Ky., Chuck Hayes and Patrick Sparks each scored 14 points and lethargic Kentucky (19-2, 10-0 Southeastern Conference) held off a late run by undermanned Georgia (7-14, 1-10), which reduced a 21-point deficit to 55-50 with 2 minutes left.

No. 6 Wake Forest 87, Florida St. 48: At Winston-Salem, N.C., Justin Gray scored 20 points, Eric Williams had 15 points and 14 rebounds and Wake Forest routed Florida State to avenge an earlier loss to the Seminoles.

Sixth-man Taron Downey finished with 14 points for the Demon Deacons (21-3, 9-2 Atlantic Coast Conference), who lost in overtime at Tallahassee three weeks ago.

No. 8 Syracuse 90, No. 22 Villanova 75: At Philadelphia, Hakim Warrick had 32 points and 12 rebounds and Gerry McNamara added 18 points to help Syracuse (22-3, 9-2 Big East) hand Villanova (14-6, 5-5) its worst loss of the season.

Randy Foye scored 18 points for Villanova, which hadn't lost by more than six this season.

No. 9 Louisville 65, South Florida 57: At Louisville, Ellis Myles scored 15 points and Taquan Dean and Larry O'Bannon 13 each, helping Louisville (21-4, 9-2 Conference USA) overcome a 37 percent shooting performance. Torrence Leather scored 18 points for South Florida (10-12, 3-8).

No. 13 Michigan St. 64, Michigan 49: At Ann Arbor, Mich., Alan Anderson had 16 points and Shannon Brown had 14 as Michigan State (17-4, 8-2 Big Ten) handed archrival Michigan (12-13, 3-8) its eighth straight loss. The Spartans have won 14 of their last 16 games overall and 12 of 13 against Michigan.

No. 18 Pittsburgh 68, Notre Dame 66: At Pittsburgh, Carl Krauser's runner from the lane with 11 seconds remaining put Pittsburgh (17-4, 7-3 Big East) ahead to stay following two comebacks by Notre Dame (14-7, 6-5).

DePaul 65, 21 Cincinnati 66: At Rosemont, Ill., Quamont Cobb scored 25 points and Drake Diener 22 as DePaul (16-5, 8-2 Conference USA) turned the tables on Cincinnati (18-6, 6-4) after a 83-54 loss to the Bearcats last month.

Eric Hicks' 22 points wasn't enough to prevent Cincinnati's third straight conference loss.

No. 23 Texas 75, Kansas St. 72 (OT): At Austin, Texas, Daniel Gibson scored 14 of his 23 points in overtime as Texas (16-7, 5-5 Big 12) snapped a three-game losing streak.

Fred Preetz had 28 for Kansas State (13-8, 3-7).



Carl Krauser's floater over Notre Dame's Rick Corbett gave No. 18 Pittsburgh the lead for good with 11 seconds to play on the way to a 68-66 victory over Notre Dame on Saturday.

Iowa St. 81, No. 25 Texas Tech 68: At Ames, Iowa, Jared Homan broke out of a shooting slump with 23 points and freshman Tasheed Carr added 17 for Iowa State (13-8, 5-5 Big 12), which rallied from a 24-10 deficit. Iowa State has won five straight after a six-game losing streak.

Homan, a 6-foot-10 senior, had been shooting in just 37 percent in conference play, but was 8-for-12 in this one.

The Red Raiders (15-6, 7-3) got 27 points from Ronald Ross but committed an uncharacteristic 18 turnovers.

Navy falls to Colgate; Army loses to Lehigh

The Associated Press

HAMILTON, N.Y. — Kyle Roemer scored 15 of his 18 points in the second half to lead Colgate to a 72-67 victory over Navy in a Patriot League game Friday night.

Jon Simon had 14 points, and Andrew Zidar added 10 points and 13 rebounds for the Raiders (10-13, 5-5 Patriot League).

Navy led 38-30 at halftime and still enjoyed a 57-53 advantage with 8:37 re-

maining when the Raiders scored seven straight points to go up 60-57.

Navy (7-16, 3-7) narrowed the score to 68-67 with 1:06 left, but Zidar made a field goal and added two free throws to keep the Midies at bay.

Greg Sprink led the Midshipmen with 16 points, Laramie Mergerson scored 13 and Matt Famin added 12.

Lehigh 69, Army 64: At West Point, N.Y., Joe Knight scored 30 points and made two free throws with 21 seconds left to seal Lehigh's victory over Army.

Lehigh (13-10, 7-3 Patriot League) outscored Army 19-6 over a seven-minute span to build a 54-39 lead with 7:50 to play. The Black Knights fought back, narrowing the margin to 67-64 on Cory Simming's layup with three seconds remaining.

Knight was fouled and made both shots to end the game.

Jason Mgebroff added 14 points for the Mountain Hawks.

Lehigh shot 70 percent from the floor in the second half, including five three-pointers. Army shot 45.8 percent overall, its best in 10 league games.

Sinning finished with 20 points for the Black Knights (13, 1-9) and Matt Bell contributed 14.

Mickelson's romp in Phoenix carries over to Pebble

The Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Despite two dozen victories on the PGA Tour and one memorable major, Phil Mickelson wound up in new territory through two rounds of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

This is the first time Lefty has had at least a share of the 36-hole lead in consecutive weeks.

And he has never led by this much.

"It's different. But I enjoy it," Mickelson said Friday afternoon after a 5-under 67 at Poppy Hills, which gave him an early tournament record, and more importantly, a four-shot lead over Mike Weir.

Golf roundup

After a course-record 62 in the opening round at Spyglass Hill, Mickelson threatened to turn the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am into a runaway with five birdies on his first nine holes to build a six-shot lead.

He was even par the rest of the way in light rain that fell over the Monterey Peninsula, but that was still good enough to finish at 15-under 129 and break the 36-hole tournament record by two shots.

Weir birdied the last three holes for a 67 at Pebble Beach, leaving him at 11-under 133. Andrew Magee had a 68 at Spyglass, while Kevin Sutherland (70) and Paul Goydos (68) were at Pebble Beach and wound up at 9-under 135.

Mickelson shot 60 in the second round last week in Phoenix, then closed with rounds of 66 and 68 for a five-shot victory, the largest margin of his career. In his last 11 rounds dating to the Bob Hope Classic, he is 53 under par.

Wilson leads in New Zealand

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — England's Oliver Wilson shot a

4-under 68 on Saturday for a one-stroke lead over countryman Miles Tunniffich heading into the final round of the New Zealand Open.

Wilson, seeking his first European tour title, had a 17-under 199 total on the Gulf Harbour course. Tunniffich shot 70 on Saturday.

Sweden's Niclas Fasth, the second-round leader, shot a 75 to drop four strokes back.

Japan, Scotland share lead

GEORGE, South Africa — Catriona Matthew and Janice Moodie combined for a 4-under 69 playing alternate shot to help Scotland share the lead with Japan after

the second round of the Women's World Cup on Saturday.

At 6-under 140, Scotland and Japan were a stroke ahead of Italy, which was atop the leaderboard with Canada after the first round. South Korea was two shots behind after Jeong Jung and Bo Bae Song carded a 5-under 68.

The American team of Meg Mallon and Beth Daniel was three back following a 74. They shared that spot with Laura Davies and Karen Stimples of England (74) and Karrie Webb and Rachel Hetherington of Australia (75).

After opening with a 66, Diana Lewin of Sweden (76) and Jennifer Shipps of the U.S. (74) slipped to a 75. Lorie Kane and Dawn Coes of Canada carded a 79 to fall five off the lead.

SPORTS



VP McHale fires friend Saunders, takes over as head coach of Timberwolves, Page 28

Spring training 2005

Red Sox start over

Boston will open camp seeking first repeat since 1916

BY RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

The trophy has toured New England, the prized possession of the Boston Red Sox, who finally ended The Curse.

As spring training camps open next week from Vero Beach, Fla., to Peoria, Ariz., there are 29 teams ready to knock off the remarkable Red Sox.

"We have a slogan around here: 'Any group of schlemiels can win once,'" Red Sox President Larry Lucchino said. "We've got to win more than once."

A lot has happened since Keith Foulke flipped the famous ball to Doug Mientkiewicz for the final out at Busch Stadium last Oct. 27, giving the Red Sox their first World Series title since 1918. The fallout continues: The Red Sox and Mientkiewicz, traded this month to the New York Mets, still haven't figured out who owns that special sphere.

When Boston last defended the title, baseball sunk to a low. The White Sox won the AL pennant as the Red Sox dropped to sixth place, and Chicago then lost to Cincinnati 5-3 in the best-of-nine World Series. Afterward, eight White Sox players — the notorious Black Sox — were banned for life for throwing the Series at the behest of gamblers.

Baseball has different problems these days. Barry Bonds, Jason Giambi and Gary Sheffield start spring training under unusual scrutiny, with the federal investigation of illegal steroid distribution still hanging over them.



The Boston Red Sox, who won their first World Series title in 86 years by coming back from a 3-0 deficit against the New York Yankees in the ALCS and then sweeping the St. Louis Cardinals in the Series, turned around and signed shortstop Edgar Renteria, above, away from the Cardinals. The Red Sox also added pitchers David Wells and Matt Clement as replacements for Pedro Martinez and Derek Lowe.



Washington Nationals shortstop Cristian Guzman puts on his new uniform during a news conference in Washington on Feb. 2. Though the deal to move the Montreal Expos was almost done in by city politics, Washington will field a major league team for the first time since the Senators became the Texas Rangers after the 1971 season.

Players and owners have agreed to more frequent testing for steroids and harsher penalties, but the deal still hasn't been put in writing.

"As a sport, we have done everything that we could at this point," Commissioner Bud Selig

said. "There are immediate penalties, random testing, a player gets publicly named if, heaven forbid, he does test positively."

That deal isn't the only new thing this spring. There's even a new team. After years of trying to move, the Montreal Expos fi-

nally did. After 36 years in Quebec as Les Expos, the team was reborn in December and christened the Washington Nationals, the first Major League Baseball team in the nation's capital since the expansion Senators became the Texas Rangers after the 1971 season.

"It'll be fun to go down to spring training and see all the new faces and put on the new uniforms and stuff," closer Chad Cordero said.

Bought by the other 29 teams before the 2002 season, the franchise remains under control of the commissioner's office, and a sale to new owners is unlikely before Opening Day. That meant general manager Jim Bowden, who took over from Omar Minaya, didn't have much to spend.

Other teams lavished fortunes on free agents during the offseason, with Minaya making the biggest splash. Adding a Latin flair to New York's No. 2 team, he lured three-time Cy Young Award winner Pedro Martinez from Boston for \$53 million over four years, then signed Carlos Beltran to the biggest contract of the offseason, a \$119 million, seven-year deal that convinced the All-Star center fielder to leave the Houston Astros.

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Missouri stops five-game losing streak with OT victory over No. 16 Oklahoma

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Raich wins men's slalom in worlds; Miller crashes during second run

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Coaches try to fine-tune teams before Far East tournaments

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Pedro Martinez was lured away from Boston by the New York Yankees, who signed the three-time Cy Young Award winner him to a four-year, \$53 million deal.

